

*Hafa Adai!*

# Saipan Tribune

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## OPINION METER

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## INSIDE



### SC Nominee

Obama will nominate Solicitor General Elena Kagan to the Supreme Court.

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Millions of Filipinos troop to the polls in Monday's historic elections.

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### \$133.6M Loot

Tony Stark pilots to the top of the box office.

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## Rota nurses unpaid for four pay periods—again

» **Lawmakers say govt owes agency \$200,000**

» **Only \$16K so far will be paid for nurses' wages**

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
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REPORTER

**N**urses at the Rota Health Center have not been paid their salaries—again—for four pay periods between March 26 and May 7, 2010.

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Members of this year's CNMI Team pose for a souvenir photo after this weekend's 32nd Annual Islandwide Science Fair Competition in Guam. Eight of the 27-member delegates won top awards in the competition that saw the involvement of hundreds of students from kindergarten to 12th grade.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

### GUAM SCIENCE FAIR COMPETITION

## CNMI team takes home 8 awards

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

CNMI students took home three first place awards in the 32nd Annual Islandwide Science Fair Competition held in Guam over the weekend.

Illysa Geronimo of San Vicente Elementary School, Kelsy Conlon of Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School, and Jane Mendiola of Sinapalo Elementary School of Rota topped their respective divisions, besting hundreds of students from Guam

and other insular areas.

Geronimo's entry topped her age group's energy interventions and electronics category, while Conlon's entry was the best in the human and medical science category. Mendiola emerged

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## GAO: ICE yet to deport 264 removable aliens

» **CBP cuts staff from 45 to 30 in CNMI**

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
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REPORTER

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement had yet to deport any of the 264 aliens subject to possible removal from the CNMI as of March 9, 2010, the Govern-

ment Accountability Office said in an 88-page report on the implementation of federal immigration law in the CNMI since Nov. 28, 2009.

From Dec. 27, 2009 to March 1, 2010, ICE identified 264 aliens for removal

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**Workers groups expect thousands to join motorcade. PAGE 2**  
**Nine charges against teen in armed robbery case. PAGE 3**



**GORILLA WARFARE**  
**INTO THE JUNGLE**

Saturday, May 29, 2010 ★ Tinian Dynasty ★ 7:00pm-11:00pm





# Local

## Workers groups expect thousands to join motorcade

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Calling it the “final leg” in their journey for justice and reform, organizers expect thousands of people to join this Sunday’s motorcade that seeks support for the U.S. Department of Interior’s recommendation for improved immigration status for all long-term guest workers in the CNMI.

This developed as leaders and representatives of different nationalities—Filipinos, Chinese, Koreans, Bangladeshis, Nepalese, Indians, and others—showed up Saturday for a strategy meeting where they expressed their intention to participate in the motorcade.

Human rights advocate Wendy Doromal has asked the local community to embrace long-term foreign workers, who labored to build the CNMI, on an equal level.

“To the residents of the Commonwealth—the foreign workers are your neighbors, co-workers, friends, fellow-worshippers and in some cases, your relatives. They have embraced the culture and some have even learned the native language,” Doromal said.

Former lawmaker Tina Salblan, attorneys Jane Mack and

Stephen Woodruff, Sr. Stella Mangona, and United Workers Movement-NMI president Rabby Syed will lead the motorcade from Kili Beach to the American Memorial Park at 2pm.

Syed told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that they expect a large number of people to show up, just like what happened during the historic Unity March in December 2007.

Syed said the Interior’s recommendation will cover more than 15,000 foreign workers and those with immediate relative status. “In that case, this is not now only some individuals’ issue. This is all alien workers issue or those who will benefit from Interior’s recommendation,” he said.

Despite the local government’s plan to adopt a resolution to scrap Interior’s recommendation, Syed said alien workers

need to bring their plight to the U.S. Congress’ attention.

Syed said these workers don’t have a spokesperson in Congress, hence the need to take some initiatives that can address their concerns.

“This [motorcade] is one of the initiatives,” he said.

Doromal, whose message was read by Ronnie Doca, United Workers Movement-NMI and PILCOWA board chairman, at Saturday’s meeting at the American Memorial Park Theater, said she believes that members of Congress will pass legislation to grant green cards with a pathway to U.S. citizenship, or grant outright U.S. citizenship to legal foreign workers who have lived and worked in the CNMI for five years or longer.

“To grant a status with anything less would be un-American



Doromal

## Large volume of OFW absentee voters beat deadline

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

The biggest volume of Filipino overseas absentee voters in the CNMI beat yesterday’s dead-

line, with the Philippine Consulate General extending the voting for an hour.

As of 6pm yesterday, 351 voters have already turned in their accomplished ballots,

and un-democratic. I have faith that my country will right what is wrong, establish justice and end the disenfranchisement of thousands who have demonstrated their love and loyalty to the United States of America through their labor and as responsible and contributing members of the CNMI community,” she said.

Doromal said many alien workers lived and worked longer in the CNMI than in their homelands, and yet they remain disenfranchised.

“Many of you have lived longer in the CNMI than some of the islands’ voters have, and still you cannot vote. Many of you have U.S. citizen children that serve in the United States Armed Forces, but you cannot even visit the U.S. mainland,” she said.

Doromal said it is time to finally free the Commonwealth’s long-term foreign workers and to make them full-fledged citizens of the United States.

bringing the grand total to 3,269 ballots submitted to the Consulate General.

Philippine Consul General Medardo Macaraig told *Saipan Tribune* he expects the number to rise since there were still people filling up their ballots as of 7pm last night.

Macaraig also disclosed that they extended the deadline for submission of ballots to 9pm because of the Commission on Election’s instruction in Manila to adjust voting hours by an additional hour.

He said the partial turnout of votes has already reached 45.6 percent as of 6pm.

There are 7,169 registered Filipino voters in the CNMI but the number of actual voters will be much lower due to the many workers who have already left the Commonwealth.

Besides yesterday’s turnout, Macaraig said the biggest volume was seen last Saturday, when 363 voters turned in their ballots.

The counting of votes will be held at the ground floor of the Marianas Business Plaza at 9pm.

Liberal Party’s Benigno “Noy” Aquino III is leading the vote in the early results of the 2010 overseas absentee voting in the CNMI, based on an exit poll conducted by *Saipan Tribune* on Sunday.

Aquino is ahead with 25 votes or 76 percent of the total voters surveyed at the Philippine Consulate General in Susupe where they turned in their accomplished votes.

The Arroyo administration’s presidential bet, Gilberto “Gibo” Teodoro Jr., is a distant second with five votes or 15 percent of the total voters surveyed.



A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority  
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**May 2010 Tourism Month**

**What do you like most about Taste of the Marianas?**



The food! The people—they’re nice. The entertainment—the singing and dancing is pretty good.

—Hunter Jewell, left, with friend Bryce Daly

The food! It tastes good. And the “jan ken pon” (paper, scissors, rock) competition.

—Kenji Hosono, left, with brother Keanu



I enjoy Taste of the Marianas because it brings the different cultures together, and it includes the hotels, unlike other festivals.

—Marilyn Marron

What I like best about Taste of the Marianas is the food—the food it great! And it’s a time to meet other people. I think more people should come to Taste of the Marianas, because it’s awesome!

—Leo Galarse



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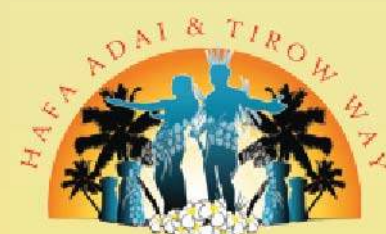


### Registration Information:

**Saipan:** 5:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. – I3 Fisherman Pavilion

**Tinian:** 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. – Tachog’na Beach

**Rota:** 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. – Téteto Beach



This Tourism Tuesday space is provided by Saipan Tribune



# Nine charges against teen in armed robbery case

## Judge finds probable cause for all charges

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_deltorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General filed nine charges yesterday against a teenager who, along

with a male juvenile, allegedly robbed a restaurant in Chalan Kanoa on May 1, 2010.

The OAG charged 18-year-old Eric Aguon with armed robbery, assault with a dangerous weapon, theft, conspiracy to commit robbery, underage person consuming alcohol, and four counts of disturbing the peace.

During yesterday's preliminary hearing, Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman found probable cause to

believe that Aguon may have committed the crimes and ordered him to answer all charges. Arraignment was set for May 17 at 9am.

According to the charging information, Aguon, armed with rocks, robbed Chang Won Restaurant on May 1, 2010. The suspect, who was intoxicated at the time, allegedly stole \$25 cash from the restaurant's owner, Kyung Aea Jung.

Aguon allegedly conspired with a male juvenile in committing the robbery. The juvenile was arrested for armed robbery, minor consuming alcohol, and curfew violation.

The juvenile's mother, Choice A. Ray, was also arrested for allegedly trying to prevent police officers from arresting her son.

Besides Jung, the other victims in the case are Mingshu Zhang, Quan Yushan, and Jae Young Kim.

Police said that, on May 1 at 12:55am, they received a 911 call about a robbery at Chang

Won Restaurant.

Police officers responded to the scene and learned that two male individuals entered the restaurant, demanded money, and assaulted the owner with 2X4 lumber and large rocks.

Fearing for her life, the businesswoman gave cash to one of the suspects, then ran to the back room and sought assistance.

The suspects fled on foot before police officers arrived.

Officers immediately reviewed the surveillance camera,

leading to the identification of Aguon and the juvenile.

Assistant attorney general Jennifer Dockter represented the government in the case; assistant public defender Michael Brown served as counsel for Aguon.

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## NMC acting dean hopes to fill 2 department chair posts this Fall

### Ex-department chair Haag back at NMC as adjunct instructor

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The acting dean of Academic Programs and Services at the Northern Marianas College is confident they will have a complete slate of six department chairpersons when the new Fall semester opens.

Dr. Patrick Moran told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that the college is now in the process of recruiting and evaluating the applicants for the vacant posts.

NMC still lacks two department chairpersons for its Math and Nursing departments. These posts were left vacant after the departure of Glenn Keaton (math) and Lynne Curtis (nursing) last year.

NMC hired Dr. John Griffin in March as chairperson of NMC's Business Department.

Dr. Moran said two former department chairs—Keaton and Mark Haag—have applied for the posts early this year. Their contracts were not renewed by then president Dr. Carmen Fernandez.

The dean disclosed that Haag will start teaching as an adjunct instructor this summer, while no decision has been made yet on Keaton's application.

"We're very optimistic that two department chair positions will be filled [by the start of the new semester]. ... We have applicants for both posts," Dr. Moran said.

As of yesterday, NMC has 12 open positions, including that of the dean of Academic Programs and Services, which was left vacant with the resignation of Cynthia Deleon Guerrero.

The college is also looking for department chairpersons in sciences, math, health, and athletics, as well as an academic librarian, a director for Library Programs and Services, and a director for Admission and Records.

The college is also on the lookout for an administrative manager for the Nursing Department, three instructors for reading, special education, and nursing, and a number of program coordinators and program managers for Student Support Services, Office of Institutional Effectiveness, and the UCEDD

program. The Talent Search Program is also looking for an administrative assistant.


Faculty Senate president Larry Lee pointed out the need to fill important positions such

as department chairpersons and instructors in time for the new semester.

At the beginning of the Spring semester, NMC had less than 30 vacancies posted on its Web site.

At present, only 12 positions remain unfilled.

NMC had a total workforce of 182—76 faculty and 106 staff—at the start of the Spring semester.

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# Inos says 10-hour work cut this week; Nogis' 2nd contract under OAG review



## MARIANAS MARCH AGAINST CANCER

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Acting Gov. Eloy S. Inos poses with health advocates right after signing a proclamation declaring May 10 to 15 Marianas March Against Cancer Week, at the DFS Galleria in Garapan yesterday afternoon. The signature annual sunset-to-sunrise march will be held from May 14 to May 15 at the Hopwood Junior High School track and field.

## AWARDS

From Page 1

overall winner in the physical science category in her division.

Three other students from the CNMI also brought honor to their home islands after finishing second best in their division. They include Vanessa Granlich of San Vicente Elementary School, who won in the plant and animal category; Miguel Aninon of GTC, who topped the human and medical category; and Akari Miones of Dandan Elementary School, who topped the ecology and earth science category of her age group.

Third place honors went to Mary Joyce Espinosa of San Vicente Elementary School in ecology and earth science and Kiela Joyvonne Limes of Kagman Elementary School in the

physical science category.

The CNMI sent a 27-member team to this year's competition—21 from public schools and six from private schools. All members got the chance to represent the Commonwealth after winning the top awards in the CNMI Public School System Island-wide Science Fair competition held in March.

The 32nd Annual Islandwide Science Fair Competition was held at the University of Guam, where hundreds of participants from kindergarten to 12th grade joined the competition.

Among the categories of this year's contest were ecology and earth sciences, physics, biology and medical sciences, chemistry, energy and inventions, philosophy, computer science, and aerospace technology.

Hopwood Junior High principal Jonas Barcinas, who helped chaperone

the CNMI team, described the Commonwealth's participation as a big success. He credited Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan and associate commissioner for Instruction and Curriculum Jackie Quitugua for helping secure funds for the students' travel to Guam. Delta Air Lines helped sponsor the team's plane tickets.

Sablan said yesterday she is truly proud of the students and their coaches.

"This event not only stimulates the mind, but also provides our youth an opportunity that is always available when striving for excellence," she said.

Sablan said both PSS and the Board of Education applaud the students in representing the Commonwealth at the Guam competition.

The event was sponsored by Delta Air Lines, Shell, Marianas Energy Co., along with other contributors.

## NURSES

From Page 1

Rota lawmakers and nurses separately confirmed yesterday that the non-payment of nurses' salaries is a result of the government's non-payment of some \$200,000 to Saipan Employment Agency Services, the private firm that provides nurses to Rota Health Center.

"We have been patient enough but we hope the government and SEAS will work something out to get us paid. We cannot survive any longer without getting paid," one of the 11 Rota Health Center nurses and auxiliary personnel employed by SEAS told *Saipan Tribune* in a phone interview yesterday.

Sen. Juan M. Ayuyu (Ind-Rota), chairman of the four-member Rota Legislative Delegation, said a local bill the delegation passed on Friday appropriates \$16,000 to go toward SEAS to be able to pay at least the minimum wage of the affected nurses as the U.S. Department of Labor requires.

The registered nurses, for example, are paid \$9.20 an hour. But Ayuyu and Rep. Teresita A. Santos (Ind-Rota) said U.S. Labor requires that nurses be paid at least the current CNMI minimum wage of \$4.55 covering the missed four pay periods, by May 28.

Ayuyu said the bill will soon be

transmitted to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial for his signature.

Santos, who is author of House Local Bill 17-9, hopes that the governor will sign the local bill immediately so that the nurses will receive at least the minimum wage.

But even after the \$16,000 is paid to the nurses, the Rota Health Center or the central government still has to come up with some \$184,000 to settle its debts with SEAS.

Santos' HLB 17-9 appropriates a total of \$68,000 in Rota poker and pachinko slot machine license fees to go toward seven programs and activities, including \$16,000 for partial payment of SEAS nurses and auxiliary staff at Rota Health Center.

The bill also appropriates \$18,000 for the Rota Mayor's Office's operational fund; \$14,000 for the Rota Municipal Scholarship Fund; \$13,500 for 15 Rota dialysis and terminally ill patients currently receiving treatment on Saipan; \$3,500 for Rota cadets' stipend and housing allowance; \$2,000 for the Rota youth recreational and sports facility; and \$1,000 for the Rota Joint Parents-Teachers Association.

This is not the first time that Rota nurses have not been paid on time.

In early March, *Saipan Tribune* reported that Rota nurses were not paid for three pay periods beginning Jan. 3.

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
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REPORTER

Acting Gov. Eloy S. Inos confirmed yesterday that close to 400 excepted service employees in the Executive Branch will receive a 10-hour work cut per pay period starting this week.

Over 300 work hour cut notices were issued on April 12, and the rest were issued on April 13 because of declining government revenue and the absence of other austerity measures. The 30-day notice period expires this week.

Inos also said the Office of the Attorney General is now reviewing a second sole-source contract of \$40,500 proposed by the Department of Lands and Natural Resources for Felix R. Nogis.

Nogis earlier bagged a sole-source contract as Department of Public Lands consultant.

Inos, at the same time, reiterated that the Fitial administration wants to come up with its own report and recommendation to the U.S. Congress on the immigration status of alien workers in the CNMI.

"Our position is that this whole thing about granting citizenship should be based on existing federal law that does not prevent them from being able to travel in the U.S. and work there as a U.S. citizen, and not limited to the CNMI," Inos told reporters right after signing yesterday a proclamation designating May 10 to 15 Marianas March Against Cancer Week.

Inos also reiterated that the admin-

## GAO

From Page 1

from the CNMI.

These include 214 referrals from the CNMI Office of the Attorney General with pending CNMI deportation orders, and 49 referrals from the ICE Office of Investigations and the community.

"On March 9, 2010, ICE officials told us that they had not deported any of the 72 aliens being processed for removal but that 31 were scheduled for immigration hearings by the end of March 2010 and nine had agreed to waive their right to a hearing and to be deported after completing their criminal sentences," said GAO.

ICE officials said immigration hearings take place during the first week of every month, when a judge from the U.S. Department of Justice's Executive Office of Immigration Review travels to Saipan, the GAO report said.

As of March 1, ICE officials had processed 72 of the 264 aliens for removal proceedings, either for being present in the U.S. without inspection or parole or for not possessing a required valid entry document.

Of these 72 aliens, 56 are convicted criminals under CNMI or U.S. law, including 30 who had completed their sentences at the local corrections and had been released into the community under CNMI authority.

ICE also transferred three of these 30 convicted aliens to prisons in either Guam or Honolulu, and had released the other 27 on their own recognizance.

In the same report issued on May 7, GAO said the U.S. Customs and Border Protection also reduced its full-time officers on Saipan and Rota from 45 to 30 based on current flight schedules and estimated number of travelers.

CPB replaced the first group of officers temporarily assigned to the Saipan and Rota airports with a new group on March 28.

istration is looking at raising the five-year threshold for the minimum stay of alien workers to be eligible for long-term status under the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act.

A House joint resolution strongly urging the U.S. Congress to reject the Interior recommendations of improved status for long-term aliens in the CNMI is expected to be adopted in today's back-to-back session of the House and Senate.

Inos said the resolution will be a binding legal document from the standpoint of the Legislature.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial told *Saipan Tribune* last week that the joint resolution will serve as the unified position of the CNMI government as far as the Interior recommendation to Congress is concerned.

Interior gave five options for such long-term immigration status, including conferring U.S. citizenship and permanent residency leading to U.S. citizenship to aliens who have been legally residing in the CNMI for at least five years.

But House Joint Resolution 17-4 wants the U.S. Congress to "reject" the recommendations until such time the U.S. government and the CNMI government "meet together pursuant to Section 902 of the Covenant to formalize the DOI Secretary's report."

Section 902 of the CNMI's Covenant with the U.S. allows for periodic consultations between the Commonwealth and federal governments "on all matters affecting the relationship between them."

The GAO report said CBP hired seven local CNMI citizens, including two who had previously worked for the now defunct CNMI Division of Immigration and three residents of Guam.

ICE and CBP, which are among the component agencies of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, are the primary agencies involved in federal immigration and border control.

GAO, the investigative arm of the U.S. Congress, released the report titled "DHS should conclude negotiations and finalize regulations to implement federal immigration law" to comply with the implementation requirements of Public Law 110-229 or the federalization law.

Among other things, the report described the steps taken by the component agencies of DHS to secure CNMI borders.

GAO said since Nov. 28 last year, 10 ICE officials detailed to Saipan have provided outreach to the CNMI community, assessed local security risks, identified aliens in violation of U.S. immigration laws, and processed or detained aliens for removal proceedings.

ICE officials predicted that as CNMI labor permits expire, aliens ineligible for immigration benefits may file fraudulent immigration benefit applications, the GAO report said.

It also added that ICE officials anticipate an increase in alien smuggling to Guam as aliens ineligible for immigration benefits try to reach Guam to apply for asylum. On Jan. 5, ICE and the U.S. Coast Guard interdicted 24 Chinese nationals attempting to sneak into Guam by boat.

On March 10, the CNMI Department of Labor also provided ICE with 300 names of aliens designated by the CNMI government as overstays.

"An ICE official told us that the ICE is in the process of reconciling the names of the overstays with the names of the 264 aliens in possible violation of U.S. immigration laws," GAO said.



## 'Negative' drug test results for 6 senators; 3 others yet to come in

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
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REPORTER

For the first time in CNMI history, all the nine members of the 17th Legislature underwent mandatory drug testing. All of the six results that have already come in tested negative for drugs, while three other results have yet to be released.

Senate President Paul A. Manglona (R-Rota) said yesterday that the mandatory drug testing among senators is required in the Senate Rules, which the 17th Senate amended and adopted in January. He said the Senate Fit for Work Policy

also requires such tests.

"Senators underwent testing in different times during the last three weeks. Because of different timing, six results have already come in, and we're still waiting for the three other results to come in," Manglona told *Saipan Tribune*.

Manglona declined to divulge the names of the six senators who've already passed the test, saying he will only do so as soon as all nine results are in.

Under Senate Rule 19, the nine Senate members and their staff shall submit to a urine drug test for cocaine, marijuana, opiates, amphetamines,

and phencyclidine.

Any member who tests positive shall be denied participation during session until he or she has passed the drug test.

No employee of a member of the Senate may also be assigned to work or renew employment until he or she has passed the drug test. The director of the Legislative Bureau is the administrator for the testing.

Manglona said each senator is responsible for the cost of his drug testing and that of his staffers.

Senate staffers interviewed yesterday said they have yet to undergo the drug tests but arrangements have already been made.

Unlike the Senate, the House of Representatives' own rules do not require drug testing among members.

## Rota firm is permanently barred from hiring nonresident workers

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTER

The Department of Labor has revoked the CNMI work permits of alien workers of a company on Rota for failing to comply with the terms of the Labor Secretary's order in connection with a nurse's complaint.

Labor administrative hearing officer Jerry Cody said the revocation of Saipan Employment Agency & Services Inc.'s work permits for its foreign national workers will be effective 15 days after April 30, 2010.

Cody did not say how many SEAS alien workers are affected in his order that he issued April 30.

SEAS was ordered to immediately pay nurse Imee T. Tupaz-Taimanao the remaining balance of \$5,285.16.

"Based on its failure to pay all monthly payments in accordance with the Secretary's order, SEAS is barred and disqualified permanently from hiring, renewing or employing alien workers in the CNMI," he said.

This sanction, Cody said, shall apply to both new and renewal applications submitted by SEAS or on its behalf.

Pursuant to the Secretary's order and previous order issued on July 15, 2009, he said, SEAS is ordered to pay an additional penalty to Tupaz-Taimanao amounting to \$25 per day from the first day that a monthly installment was late (March 2, 2010) until the date that the remaining balance of \$5,285.16 is fully paid.

All SEAS foreign national workers affected by the order were required to register with Labor so they could transfer to other companies.

"Immediate temporary work authorization may be granted by Labor to SEAS workers on a case-by-case basis in order to prevent any detrimental effects to public health," Cody said.

He denied all SEAS work permit applications that are currently pending at Labor.

"The worker-applicants affected by these denials are each

required to stop working for SEAS and register with Labor within 15 days after this order," Cody said.

According to Labor records, Tupaz-Taimanao filed a Labor complaint against her then employer, SEAS, for refusing to reimburse medical expenses she incurred for an off-island treatment in 2008.

Tupaz-Taimanao, the company's nurse, developed severe abdominal pain in April 2008. She had four surgeries in three Philippine hospitals and incurred \$21,685 in medical expenses.

Cody issued an administrative order on July 15, 2009, directing SEAS to pay for the medical expenses. SEAS, however, failed to make any payments. As a result, Cody on Sept. 3, 2009, revoked all SEAS work permits and barred it from employing foreign workers in the CNMI.

SEAS and its president, Henry Cruz, appealed the order to the Labor Secretary, asking

that they be allowed to pay the award in monthly installments.

In September 2009, the Labor Secretary accepted SEAS' request for monthly installment payments. In effect, Labor suspended all other monetary or injunctive sanctions that had been imposed on SEAS. The Labor Secretary established a new deadline for full payment of the award to Tupaz-Taimanao.

After the issuance of the Secretary's order, SEAS paid Tupaz-Taimanao \$2,500 every month from November 2009 through February 2010, but then stopped making monthly payments.

In his April 30 order, Cody noted that SEAS has already paid a total of \$17,500 of the original \$22,785.16 award, leaving a balance of \$5,285.16. SEAS failed to make any installment payments in March and April 2010.

"SEAS's failure to pay these installment payments has breached the Secretary's order; therefore, the full balance of \$5,285.16 has become due and payable," Cody said.

### MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL

2nd Quarter Meeting  
9:00 a.m. – May 12, 2010 – Wednesday  
Pacific Islands Club

#### Agenda

- I. Preliminary Matters
  - a. Call to order
  - b. Roll call
  - c. Adoption of Agenda
  - d. Adoption of Minutes from 2/24/10 meeting
- II. Old Business
  - a. Chair Report
  - b. Sub-Committee reports
    - i. Nominations/Membership/By-Laws
    - ii. Legislative/Regulatory
    - iii. Planning/Advocacy
    - iv. CMHS BG Budget
  - c. MHPC/Coalition projects
- III. New Business
  - Mental Health Awareness Month
  - CMHS Conference
- IV. Misc/Announcement
- V. Next Meeting
  - a. August 11, 2010-PIC
- VI. Adjournment



**BUD LIGHT**  
**IT&E** Life in Motion present **Tinian Dynasty** Hotel & Casino

# GORILLA WARFARE INTO THE JUNGLE

**No Victory Without Sacrifice.**

**Saturday, May 29, 2010**  
**Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino**  
**Doors Open at 6:00pm**  
**7:00pm-11:00pm**

**Tickets are now available at Boarderline Surf and Skate Shop at the Joeten Hafa Adai Center in Garapan and at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel**

**Take advantage of Star Marianas and Tinian Dynasty teaming up for flight specials:**

- One Round Trip Airfare, One Night Stay and a GWMMA Ticket for only \$80 per person (Double Occupancy)
- One Round Trip Airfare, and a GWMMA Ticket for only \$60 per person
- One Round Trip Airfare for only \$45 per person!

Plus, Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino will be hosting a Gorilla Warfare Texas Hold 'Em Tournament after the fight!  
\$50 Buy-In and a \$5 Entry Fee for a chance to win up to \$2,000 or more!

**Weigh-Ins:** Friday, May 28, 2010 • 6:00pm  
Spot On Bar, Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino

**After Party:** Saturday, May 29, 2010  
11:00pm Spot on Bar



**\$20 Advance Ticket – \$25 At the Door – \$30 VIP**



# Saipan mayor wants direct control of SHEFA funds

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Saipan Mayor Donald Flores wants to have direct control of funds provided to the Saipan Higher Educational Financial Assistance to ensure that checks will be issued to recipients in a timely manner.

SHEFA, a program created by law under the jurisdiction of the Saipan Mayor's Office, receives \$3 million in appropriation every year to help low-income but deserving local students pursue college here and off-island.

Since SHEFA began giving out funds in 2004, Flores said, there were many instances and reports of delayed issuance of checks to student recipients. The municipality's intention, he said, is to prevent any delay in the issuance of these checks to students.

The Department of Finance is the agency currently responsible for issuing the checks.

"The municipality's intention is to make sure that the funding for the scholarship will be given out to our students in a timely manner...to avoid any delay in their checks," he told *Saipan*

*Tribune* Thursday.

Although the program is under the mayor's office, Flores admitted that the mayor has limited authority over the program.

"Since this is created under the mayor's office, I believe we must be provided greater authority when it comes to the program's operation," he said.

He supports the idea, however, of keeping the SHEFA board and its authority to make sure that everything is in accordance with statute.

SHEFA gets \$3 million every year and is funded by poker li-

cense fees.

Flores said this amount should go entirely to the scholarship program. Administrative costs for the program's operation, he said, must be sourced from other areas.

At present, scholarships and

administrative costs for the program are both sourced from the \$3 million yearly allocation.

SHEFA admitted in 2009 that it has yet to track down all its beneficiaries since it began giving out funds in 2004.

Based on the scholarship's policy, a beneficiary must stay and work in the CNMI for at least a year in exchange for receiving

financial assistance to complete their studies. However, SHEFA has no records on how many of its beneficiaries have graduated and actually returned to fulfill their obligations.

It only knows that since last year, there were over 800 students from Saipan who were awarded assistance for their college education both here and in abroad.

## Sablan restores PSS bus driver's overtime pay

### » Employee unsatisfied with PSS offer, seeks documents

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan has concurred with the result of the investigation conducted by the Public School System's Human Resource Office on a complaint filed by a bus driver early this year and has agreed to restore certain work hours to the employee's payroll.

But bus driver Norman C. Villagomez is unsatisfied with the decision and asked for the basis of the Sablan's decision, including the result of the investigation itself.

Villagomez earlier claimed that his time cards were altered by his bus supervisor to omit extra hours he rendered on many occasions.

In her letter to Villagomez on April 25, Sablan said that based

on the investigation of the bus driver's time cards, PSS will restore approximately 13.5 hours covering three pay periods.

However, Sablan urged Villagomez to adhere to the SpEd drivers' daily schedule and follow the instruction of his supervisor, Steve Pangelinan, regarding clocking out and in for lunch.

Sablan reminded the bus driver that failure to follow these rules may be used as a cause for more stringent disciplinary actions, including dismissal.

"In order to work overtime in the future, you must fill out the form to ensure proper record keeping of your overtime or comp-time hours worked," the commissioner told Villagomez, adding that the driver must also seek his supervisor's approval prior to rendering the service.

However, Sablan also emphasized that the supervisor—in this case Steve Pangelinan—must not alter employees' time cards without first meeting with the individual employee to discuss the matter.

"These solutions should bring closure to this matter and the bus supervisors will redirect your energy and focus to providing quality transportation services to our public school students who expect nothing but the best from all of us," she said.

Villagomez acknowledged the commissioner's will to resolve the issue but expressed dissatisfaction with the decision and asked PSS to furnish him with documents relating to his service records. He also wants a copy of the investigation results conducted by PSS-HR, which became the basis for Sablan's decision.

"What's contained in the investigative report presented by Mr. Charlie Kenty, I do not know. Your decision in hopes my ongoing concern be resolved and brought to a closure are noted. Unfortunately, I am not satisfied with your offer," Villagomez told the commissioner in a letter.

The bus driver wants copies of the tampered time cards, paychecks, and time-keeping records of PSS.



### MEDIA INTERVIEW

Guam Gov. Felix Camacho speaks as CNMI Gov. Benigno R. Fitial looks on during an interview with the Japanese media after Saturday's meeting with six visiting lawmakers of the ruling Democratic Party of Japan at the Office of the Governor's conference room on Capital Hill.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

## PUBLIC NOTICE

THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
ANNOUNCES THE AVAILABILITY OF ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD FOR A REMOVAL  
ACTION AT COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS (CNMI)  
COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION (CUC) PCB SITE

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") announces that the Administrative Record for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ("CNMI") Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (Athe Site@) located at the CNMI CUC Power Plant 3 facility at Isley Field, Saipan, CNMI is available for public review and comment.

EPA obtained approval to expend up to \$348,000 in direct costs to mitigate threats posed by the presence of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) wastes located in numerous drums stored at the Site. Drums containing PCBs and trace heavy metals including silver and zinc, were stored in an uncontained area at Power Plant 3. Some of the drums have failed and had released their contents, and many of the containers have deteriorated. Extreme weather conditions including typhoons and the location of the drums posed an imminent risk to the employees of CUC and the marine environment. EPA had conducted an inventory of individual drums, prepared and transported them to the U.S. mainland followed by transportation and treatment and/or disposal of the materials at an approved Treatment, Storage or Disposal Facility. EPA determined that actual or threatened releases of hazardous substances from this Site, had it not been addressed, may have presented an imminent and substantial endangerment to public health, welfare, or the environment.

The Administrative Record is a file that includes all documents upon which the EPA has based its decision to conduct a removal action at the Site. EPA encourages community members to review the Administrative Record and submit comments during the 30-day comment period, which begins with the publication of this notice and ends 30 days later. Copies of the Administrative Record will be available for public review at the following location:

Joeten-Kiyu Public Library  
Beach Road and Insatto Street  
Saipan, CNMI 96950

Hours: Monday – Friday: 10am – 6pm  
Saturday: 9am – 4pm  
Sunday/Holidays: Closed

Superfund Records Center  
95 Hawthorne Street, Suite 403S  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Hours: Monday – Friday: 8am – 5pm  
Call for an appointment at  
(415) 536-2000

Written comments on the Administrative Record should be sent to:

Jeannie Wong (SFD-9)  
U.S. EPA, Region IX  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL CUC-RFP-10-030

#### Supply of (2) Two 1825KW Power Modules for CUC Rota Power Plant

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified individuals or firms for the urgent supply of **(2) Two 1825KW Power Modules** for CUC Rota Power Plant, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The generator sets will be used to power the Island of Rota, while CUC take down existing generators for major engine overhaul and rehabilitation. The existing generator sets on Rota are seriously overdue for overhauls and the power situation on Rota is very critical.

Due to this critical situation in Rota, Offerors must have units available for delivery no later than Six (6) months or 180 days from the closing of this BID. Used Modules with low hours will also be considered.

A site visit and pre-proposal meeting is not planned, but Offerors who wish to visit CUC Rota power plant will be permitted with prior approval. All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on part of the Offerors due to a lack of information or understanding of the plant site conditions in the course of the Contractor's preparation of a bid or performance of work under the contract.

The Scope-of-Work will be e-mailed upon request, to all interested Offerors, by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.), Monday thru Friday, except government observed holidays, until May 14, 2010.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a seal envelope marked **"CUC-RFP-10-030, Supply of (2) Two 1825KW Power Modules for CUC Rota Power Plant"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, Room No.4, 3rd Floor Joeten Dandan, P.O.Box 501220, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **May 20, 2010 at 10:00 AM**, (CHST) local time. Late submissions will not be considered.

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total proposal price must accompany the bid offer. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury or other surety acceptable to the CNMI Office of the Attorney General. A performance and payment bond of hundred (100%) percent each of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety for proposal security or other surety acceptable to the CNMI Office of the Attorney General. No advance payment will be authorized on the project or an Irrevocable Letter of Credit (100% aggregate contract cost/CUC Beneficiary) or a payment bond. All insurers questions, concerns and qualification be should handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Offerors must submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all offer and waive any imperfection in the solicitation for competitive sealed proposals, in the interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (CHST) local time on **May 17, 2010** to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr., Procurement & Supply Manager via email at [msablan@cucgov.net](mailto:msablan@cucgov.net), Mr. Wallon Young, Deputy Director Power System Rehabilitation via email at [wallon59@yahoo.com](mailto:wallon59@yahoo.com), Mr. Charles Manglona, CUC Rota Deputy Director at [charles@cucgov.net](mailto:charles@cucgov.net) and Mr. John Onedera, Power Division Engineer at [johno@cucgov.net](mailto:johno@cucgov.net).

/s/ **ABE UTU MALAE**  
Assistant Executive Director for Operations

/s/ **ANTONIO S. MUNA**  
Executive Director



**COMMUNITY BRIEFS****Pohnpei special election today**

The Pohnpei community on Saipan will hold a special election today, May 11, on the proposed amendments to the Pohnpei State Constitution. Voting will take place at the Garapan Central Park round house between the hours of 8am and 7pm. All eligible Pohnpei voters on Saipan are urged to participate in this important special election. For more information, contact your village leaders or Nick Benjamin at 237-3450 or 322-5039. **(PR)**

**Junior Night today at Kagman High**

To all parents and guardians of Kagman High School students: There will be a Junior Night today, May 11, 2010, from 5pm to 7pm at the KHS Cafeteria. Parents and guardians must attend. If you have any questions, call KHS at 237-3867/40. **(PR)**

**DEQ brigade sets monthly cleanup**

Due to the Annual Environmental Awareness Month Island-wide Cleanup in April 23, 2010, the Division of Environmental Quality's cleanup brigade will again be deviating from its regular first Saturday of each month cleanup and instead encourages volunteers to join the Koblerville Neighborhood Watch Old Runway Cleanup scheduled for May 15, 2010, at 8am Saturday.

If you would like to volunteer your time to clean and beautify our island, meet at the old runway beside the Tototville and "Pick it Up!" Volunteers will clean for about two hours or when finished.

For more information about volunteering, contact the DEQ office at 664-8500. **(DEQ)**

**Educational assistance program deadlines**

■ Deadline for Application: July 1st 2010

■ Deadline for supporting documents: September 30th 2010

PI 14-37 Honors Scholarship Program Deadlines

■ Who may apply? High school graduates of 2010

■ Deadline for application AND supporting documents: June 30th 2010

■ Application and supporting documents must be received by the CNMI Scholarship Office on or before June 30th 2010.

Visit [www.cnmischolarship.com](http://www.cnmischolarship.com) to download application and for more information. **(PR)**

**CNMI Women's Organization meeting this Thursday**

The CNMI Women's Organization will be holding a luncheon meeting (dutch) on Thursday, May 13, at 1pm luncheon (dutch) at Poons. All current members and interested women of CNMI descent are urged to attend this important meeting. **(PR)**

**Red Cross annual meeting this Thursday**

The NMI Chapter of the American Red Cross is having its annual meeting this Thursday, May 13, 2010, from 5:30pm to 6:30pm at the Chapter office on Airport Road. All volunteers, donors, and others interested in the Red Cross are welcome to attend.

The purpose of the meeting is to hold elections of the voting members of its board of directors, review reports by Chapter directors, and transact other business as it may come before the meeting. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, contact the Chapter office at 234-3459. **(ARC)**

**Oleai Elementary School PTSA meeting today**

The PTSA officers of Oleai Elementary School would like to inform the parents and guardians of Oleai Elementary School that there would be a PTSA meeting today, May 11, 2010, at 6:15pm in the school cafeteria. Everyone is encouraged to attend. **(PR)**

**Koblerville calendar of activities**

■ May 15, 2010, Saturday: Koblerville Community Coalition - Neighborhood Watch Group, Saipan Mayor's Office, Saipan Southern High School students, DEQ Cleanup Brigade, CNMI Parolees, Rep.

Diego Benavente, Rep. Joseph Guerrero, and Rep. Antonio Sablan, Sen. Ralph Torres and staff and volunteers will be cleaning up the old airport field behind Tototville.

■ May 29, 2010, Saturday: Koblerville Community Coal-

ition - Neighborhood Watch and Saipan Southern High School students and volunteers will be doing a cleanup at the Unai Dankulo (beachside below Coral Ocean Point).

We are asking drivers to be wary of the volunteers who

will be out on these dates and to drive slowly. We are also encouraging the Koblerville community to come out and assist with the beautification drive for Koblerville. Let's Clean up Koblerville and restore pride in the south side. **(PR)**

**Boyer named MVA Employee of the Quarter**

Statistics specialist III Thelma Boyer, center, is recognized as Marianas Visitors Authority Employee of the Quarter at the MVA office on April 30, 2010. Presenting Boyer with her certificate of appreciation are MVA deputy managing directory Judy Torres and managing director Perry Tenorio.

Statistics specialist III Thelma Boyer has been named Employee of the Quarter for the Marianas Visitors Authority for the period of February to April 2010.

"Boyer performs technical work within the Research Section to gather and process tourist-related information that is used by the MVA and travel-tour-hospitality industry to better understand the make-up and

interests of the tourist who come to Saipan, Tinian, and Rota," said MVA deputy managing director Judy Torres in nominating Boyer.

Boyer was also commended for working with minimal supervision, completing her job in a timely manner, and maintaining the data warehouse of the MVA. She also develops and prepares periodic reports that

display the collected statistical information to MVA members, travel-tourism partners and the general public.

Torres added that Boyer also helps other staff in her division, and these efforts provide a smooth transition with staff needing training and timely distribution of the monthly visitor arrival reports and other related reports. **(MVA)**



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
State Board of Education  
**Public School System**  
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

**INVITATION FOR BID  
PSS IFB 10-046****"GENERAL REPAIR WORKS AT TANAPAG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL"**

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the **General Repair Works at Tanapag Elementary School** on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on May 11, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$61.95.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, "BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS". Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, "Competitive Sealed Bidding".

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on May 28, 2010, at 3:30 p.m., local time, at the Tanapag Elementary School Library in Tanapag, Saipan. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at [lizb@emchen.com](mailto:lizb@emchen.com) no later than June 2, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-046, and submitted with one (1) original and five (5) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 10:30 a.m., local time, June 7, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly open in the PSS Conference Room, 2nd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

**This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with "Buy America" Provisions.**

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.  
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian  
Procurement Officer



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
State Board of Education  
**Public School System**  
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

**Invitation for bid  
PSS-IFB-10-051****"FIVE(5) PARATRANSIT VANS FOR PSS SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM"**

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting competitive sealed bids for the purchase of Five (5) Paratransit Vans for PSS Special Education Program. The Scope of Work is available beginning May 11, 2010 at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the CNMI Retirement Fund building, Capitol Hill, Saipan MP 96950.

Questions shall be in writing and addressed to Robert Florian, Procurement Officer via fax at (670) 664-3791 or e-mailed to the following address: [robert.florian@cnmipss.org](mailto:robert.florian@cnmipss.org)

Bids must be placed in a sealed envelope marked "IFB 10-051" containing one (1) original with Three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement & Supply Office situated on the 3rd Floor of the CNMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **June 2, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.**, at which time bids, will be publicly opened. Any bids received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted.

**This purchase is funded by a Grant from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).**

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.  
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian  
Procurement & Supply Officer



# HANMI, MVA create assistance fund for 2009 shooting victims

To aid the 13 victims of the 2009 shooting incident on Saipan and their families, the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands and Marianas Visitors Authority are inviting the community to support a Victims Assistance Fund for the victims.

"The people of the Northern Marianas desire to live in peaceful community, and visitors to our islands expect the same when they come

here," said HANMI chair Nick Nishikawa. "We hope to alleviate the suffering of these victims and their families in some small way, and we hope



to never see this tragedy again in our islands."

Donations received will be divided by the MVA among

the victims.

In November 2009 a single gunman went on a shooting rampage in this quiet island community, killing five individuals and injuring eight others.

A portion of the 9<sup>th</sup> HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament on June 5, 2010, will be donated to the fund. Donations may be dropped off at the Marianas Visitors Authority office in Oleai or mailed to MVA,

P.O. Box 500861, Saipan, MP 96950 by June 10, 2010. Checks should be made payable to the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands.

For more information, contact the Marianas Visitors Authority at (670) 663-3200 or info@my-marianas.com, or HANMI Public Relations at (670) 288-8433 or integrity@pticom.com. (PR)

## Community takes part in Family Fun Fair

More than 80 people participated in the Family Fun Fair and Awareness Day held Saturday, May 8, sponsored by the Coalition for Anti-Stigma of Mental Illness and the Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc.

Activities included a Walk-a-Thon sponsored by Commonwealth Guidance Center, which also donated T-shirts for participants, followed by a tai-chi demonstration by Barry Wicksman, and face-painting by local artist Jose Kani.

Healthy snacks of fruits and vegetables were donated by the Sabalu Farmers Market Association, and drinks for participants were donated by House Reps. George Camacho and Sylvestre Iguel.

Almost 200 people entered the essay contest and wrote essays on "My Story: What Good Mental Health Means to Me and Three Things I Do For Myself to Feel Better When I Feel Unhappy." The contest winners were:

■ Grades 1-3: Arman Khorram, 3rd grade, Brilliant Star School

■ Grades 4-6: Bennett D.L. Guerrero, 6th grade, WSR

■ Grades 9-12: Denicia C. Avendano, 11th grade, MHS

■ Adults: Riza Ramos

Prizes for the essay contest were donated by Pacific Islands Club, Tan Holdings, and Hyatt Regency Saipan.

The Family Fun Fair and Awareness Day is one of the many activities scheduled for May, which is Mental Health Awareness Month. (PR)

## Free federal grants workshop at NMC on Thursday

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will be conducting a free one-day workshop on Federal Grant Programs for Small Businesses and other subjects on Thursday, May 13, 2010, from 9am to 3:30pm.

The "Doing Business with the Environmental Protection Agency and the Federal Government" workshop will be held at the Northern Marianas College in Room V-205. EPA

agents from Washington, D.C., will facilitate the workshops and be available to answer any questions.

Among the many subjects to be covered at this workshop are the following: Taking Advantage of Federal Programs for Small Businesses, Effective Small Business Marketing Techniques, Navigating the EPA and the Federal Government, Responding to Government

Sources, How the EPA Office of Small Business Program Can Assist, and others.

Workshop participants will also enjoy a free Continental breakfast, lunch, and snacks. There is no fee required for registration, but space is limited for this event. For more information or to make a reservation, call Shirley Blas at 234-5498 ext. 1812 or e-mail shirleyb@nmcnet.edu. (PR)

## Can you identify?

THE NMI Council for the Humanities, in collaboration with the Saipan Tribune, is running a series of photographs in this section every Tuesday and is inviting the public to identify the persons or places featured in this section.



If you can identify the persons or places in the picture, please contact the NMI Council for the Humanities by telephone (235-4785), via email (photo@nmihumanities.org) or by visiting the Council's office located in Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai. These images are from the Council's Historic Photograph Database which is currently being developed to help document the history and cultures of the CNMI.



Last week's photo was identified as the Tanapag Church. Photo taken in 1950. Identified by Juanita R. Deleon Guerrero, Nobert Camacho, Cecilia Lifofoi, Joe Kani, and Remedio and Vicente Cango.

Ongelebl Reched Stephanus  
P.O. Box 501191  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Telephone No: 788-2937/235-2326

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN  
MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE MATTER  
OF THE APPOINTMENT  
OF ONGELEBL RECHED  
STEPHANUS AS  
GUARDIAN OF THE  
ESTATE OF AMBERLYNN  
JACK STEPHANUS

Minor Child

By

ONGELEBL RECHED  
STEPHANUS  
Petitioner

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition for Appointment of Guardian for the estate of the above-named minor child by Ongelebl Reched Stephanus, Petitioner, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court.

A HEARING of said petition for Guardianship will be held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Superior Court before the Honorable Kenneth L. Govendo on the 17th day of May, 2010 at 1:30 PM or as soon as thereafter.

Bernadita A. Sablan  
Clerk of Court

/s/ By: Deputy Clerk of Court

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT  
INVITATION TO BID  
ITB10-DOC-098

CLOSING DATE: JUNE 10, 2010 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"SUPPLY, DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION OF SOLAR POWERED LED SCHOOL ZONE AND PEDESTRIAN CROSS-WALK FLASHER/BEACON FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN"

COPIES OF THE BID PACKAGE CAN BE OBTAINED AT THE QUICK PRINT AND POST FOR A NOMINAL REPRODUCTION FEE, CHALAN PALE ARNOLD, GARAPAN, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS ON OR AFTER MAY 10, 2010.

A MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED AT THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE CONFERENCE ROOM, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN ON TUESDAY, MAY 25TH, 2010 BEGINNING AT 10 AM.

THIS IS AN AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 PROJECT AND AS SUCH ALL MATERIALS PURCHASED MUST BE MANUFACTURED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT. AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE IT IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW.

/S/ MICHAEL J. ADA  
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

/S/ MARTIN C. SABLAN  
SECRETARY OF DPW

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR, P&S

## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

May 11, 1999

### PSS, NMC eyes sharing of resources

The meager budget for education has gathered officials from the Public School System and the Northern Marianas College to discuss ways to share available resources. In an interview with BOE Chairman Esther Fleming, she said PSS hopes to work with NMC to promote its advanced program in the high school level, Teachers Academy and implementation of set standards. "I think we can be able to maximize our resources. We can utilize some of the resources that the college has to promote some of our programs," she said. Currently, PSS is planning to offer students who are performing ahead of the class an advanced academic program. Officials are looking at college instructors who can present the group with a higher academic challenge curriculum.

### Teno defends DOLI

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday threw his strong support to Labor and Immigration Secretary Mark D. Zachares amid mounting complaints of inefficiency and bureaucratic procedure against the labor office that have angered businessmen. Last week members of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce were supposed to hold a dialog with Zachares concerning problems confronting the business community in processing application of workers, but the meeting was called off by the DOLI chief. "DOLI is trying is best," the governor told reporters, in defending the department, as he expressed confidence that Zachares remains fit to hold the post.

May 11, 2000

### PCB health screening draws 110 residents

Close to a 110 Tanapag residents have already visited the PCB village clinic since the Department of Public Health began its screening Monday. The outreach has given residents newfound assurance that their needs are finally being recognized, Dr. Richard Brostrom said yesterday afternoon, in between patients. Dr. Brostrom, head of the medical team assigned to conduct the health evaluations, expressed gladness over the positive turnout the outreach is getting from the nearby community. "People have come like we asked them to," he said. Results of the screening for the first set of residents evaluated have yet to be completed, according to the doctor.

### Bill allows mayors to regulate jueteng

The mayor's office from each of the senatorial districts in the CNMI will have the authority to regulate the numbers game jueteng if a bill proposed by House Floor Leader Oscar M. Babauta becomes a law. The measure, HB 12-121, has passed the lower house and is now heading to the Senate for action. This is an amendment to an existing statute that empowers the mayors from Rota, Saipan and Tinian to permit operations of such games as bingo, batu, raffles and cockfights in their respective jurisdictions. Jueteng, introduced within the ethnic groups of Korean, Chinese and Filipinos on the island, has become a popular game even among the indigenous people and could be a source of additional revenues for the municipal governments.

May 11, 2001

### Betz denies allegations

Asst. Atty. General William E. Betz submitted to the US Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals yesterday a letter denying allegations that he committed dereliction of duty in an appeal of an adverse verdict that involved police brutality. The embattled government lawyer labeled as entirely untrue and baseless accusations that he failed to notify the Attorney General's Office that an appeal filed in behalf of local cop Raymond Ayuyu was pending. "The action was underhanded, dishonest and perjurious," said Mr. Betz. Based on accusations of neglect, AGO is reportedly mulling over the removal of Mr. Betz, citing an alleged failure to do his part in an appeal that has been scheduled for opening brief on May 14, 2001.

### Revenues from travel sector to reach \$200M in 5 years

The government remains confident the islands' tourism industry will pump in revenues by at least \$200 million in five years due to the anticipated success of the programs that will be carried out by the Strategic Economic Development Council. A report prepared by the Office of the Governor disclosed that revenues generated from the tourism industry are projected to reach \$200 million by 2005. Following projections that visitor arrivals to the Northern Marianas will reach 810,000 in five years, the CNMI government is planning to develop 900 new tourist hotel rooms by 2004.





Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
State Board of Education  
**Public School System**  
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



## INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-047

### "GENERAL REPAIR WORKS AT OLEAI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the **General Repair Works at Oleai Elementary School** on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on May 11, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$62.05.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, "BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS". Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, "Competitive Sealed Bidding".

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on May 28, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at the Oleai Elementary School Library in Oleai, Saipan. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at [lizb@emchen.com](mailto:lizb@emchen.com) no later than June 2, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-047, and submitted with one (1) original and five (5) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 11:00 a.m., local time, June 7, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly open in the PSS Conference Room, 2nd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

**This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with "Buy America" Provisions.**

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.  
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian  
Procurement Officer



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
State Board of Education  
**Public School System**  
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



## INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-048

### "GENERAL REPAIR WORKS AT GARAPAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the **General Repair Works at Garapan Elementary School** on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on May 11, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$61.25.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, "BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS". Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, "Competitive Sealed Bidding".

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on May 28, 2010, at 1:00 p.m., local time, at the Garapan Elementary School Library in Garapan, Saipan. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at [lizb@emchen.com](mailto:lizb@emchen.com) no later than June 2, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-048, and submitted with one (1) original and five (5) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 1:00 p.m., local time, June 7, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly open in the PSS Conference Room, 3rd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

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Commissioner of Education

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Procurement Officer



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
State Board of Education  
**Public School System**  
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



## INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-049

### "GENERAL REPAIR WORKS AT KAGMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the **General Repair Works at Kagman Elementary School** on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on May 11, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$47.50.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, "BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS". Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, "Competitive Sealed Bidding".

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on May 27, 2010, at 9:30 a.m., local time, at the Kagman Elementary School Library in Kagman, Saipan. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at [lizb@emchen.com](mailto:lizb@emchen.com) no later than June 2, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-049, and submitted with one (1) original and five (5) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 1:30 p.m., local time, June 7, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly open in the PSS Conference Room, 3rd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

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/s/ Robert Florian  
Procurement Officer



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
State Board of Education  
**Public School System**  
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



## INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-050

### "GENERAL REPAIR WORKS AT CHACHA JR. HIGH SCHOOL"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the **General Repair Works at Chacha Jr. High School** on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on May 11, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$66.75.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, "BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS". Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, "Competitive Sealed Bidding".

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on May 27, 2010, at 10:30 a.m., local time, at the Chacha Jr. High School Library in Kagman, Saipan. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at [lizb@emchen.com](mailto:lizb@emchen.com) no later than June 2, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-050, and submitted with one (1) original and five (5) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 2:00 p.m., local time, June 7, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly open in the PSS Conference Room, 3rd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

**This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with "Buy America" Provisions.**

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.  
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# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

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## Major policy failures of the Commonwealth

By RYAN BRADLEY E. ORTIZO  
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Editor's Note: The following is the winning speech delivered by the author during the Attorney Generals' Cup speech competition. Ortizo, 17, is the son of Nero and Myrna Ortizo.*

Bill Cosby once joked, "I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everybody." That has certainly been the case here in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, where most every policy failure since 1978 has stemmed from a perverse belief that the role of government is to please everybody. To put it simply: We expect our government to do more than it can or should do. In the end, we get the government we deserve, one that is spread too thin, one that is crumbling under the weight of expectations, and one that is heading nowhere. As Ronald Reagan once put it, "In this present crisis, government is not the solution to our problem; government is the problem."

This crisis, however, could be our wake-up-call. Just as a heart attack can force a man to live a healthier life, our current crisis can force us to learn from our mistakes and do better next time. So, what exactly have been the mistakes? What have been the major policy failures since 1978? I believe that the main failure has been the establishment of a welfare state that doles out one entitlement after another.

To begin with, let us consider the CNMI's tax structure. Established by Public Law 1-30, the CNMI's tax structure remains one of the most generous tax systems in the world. In addition to being exempted from many federal taxes and paying only minimal local taxes, taxpayers in the CNMI receive a 50 to 90 percent rebate on their local taxes. These rebates are essentially welfare checks that deprive our government of revenue it needs to provide essential services.

But tax rebates are not the only entitlement program in the CNMI. There is also the NMI Retirement Fund. Since its establishment by Public Law 1-34, the NMI Retirement Fund has degenerated into one of the most burdensome liabilities in the Commonwealth. Gov. Benigno Fitial summed it up best in his 2009 State of the Commonwealth address when he said that Retirement Fund was "a financially untenable system that was way too generous, that promised benefits that exceed our government's ability to pay, and that could not possibly be sustained with falling revenues." In fact, the government's liability to the fund has gotten so bad that in 2009, Judge Kenneth Govendo ruled that the government owes the Fund more than \$230 million. That's \$230 million that might be taken from education, health care, and public safety, for the sole benefit of retirees that have withdrawn more from the fund than they ever contributed.

Another entitlement program, and one that is more relevant to my generation, is the CNMI's scholarship system, which doles out over \$3 million worth of financial assistance every year. Are those funds spent wisely? How many stories have we

heard about college students using their scholarship money to buy clothes, video games, or beer? Of course, one could argue that scholarship spending is a worthwhile investment toward an educated workforce, but many scholarship recipients either never return to the islands or never pay back what they owe. So, whether it be scholarship programs, the Retirement Fund, or a generous tax structure, these entitlement programs are policy failure that have helped build a welfare state that doles out money as if it grew on trees.

But money is not the only thing doled out by the CNMI's welfare state. Other policy failures dole out services and jobs that are abused and exceed the government's financial capacity.

Take for instance the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. Established

sites that feed off of politicians. And our foreign labor market and minimum wage laws have only made things worse, with many local residents opting for high paying government jobs, while foreign workers slum it as construction workers, housemaids, and garment workers.

Speaking about this in an Op-Ed piece in the April 19, 2010, issue of the *Saipan Tribune*, business leader Tony Pellegrino wrote, "Today we are as stranger walking our streets. We don't plow our fields; we don't build anything. We merely consume as parasites."

An overly generous tax structure. An untenable Retirement Fund. An abused scholarship system. A crippled utilities corporation. A bloated government. And I haven't even touched on discretionary funds, tents, picnic tables, and *chenchule* that politicians offer as a "community service."

I could go on and on about the many failed entitlement policies of the past 30 years, but what they all have in common is that they have festered into a welfare state plagued by a culture of dependency. Indeed, our Commonwealth suffers from a cancer of parasitic politics. And just like a cancer, we need to stop treating the symptoms and start treating the disease itself. If there's any lesson to be learned from these failed policies, it is that we have come to expect more from government than it can or should do. This is an unsustainable political pathology in which we have abdicated our responsibility and our power to a dysfunctional government. It is simply not how you do things.

So that's what's wrong. But how do we apply these lessons learned to ensure a more successful future for our Commonwealth? How do we cure our cancer?

While there is no real cure for cancer, there are two ways to treat it.

One treatment is chemotherapy. We all know that the government lives way beyond its means. As Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Douglas Brennan noted recently, it is alarming that the cash-strapped CNMI government will spend beyond \$150 million despite the need for austerity measures. This needs to stop. We need to conduct a desk audit across the board to find the cancerous offices and positions, and eliminate them. If the private sector is going lean, then so should the government.

This kind of fiscal chemotherapy, however, is not enough. We also need a second treatment, a lifestyle change. Just as cancer can be avoided by living a healthier lifestyle, the Commonwealth must learn to live a healthier political lifestyle. To do that, I offer a modest proposal: We must expect less from government, and give more as

See **FAILURES** on Next Page



*If there's any lesson to be learned from these failed policies, it is that we have come to expect more from government than it can or should do. This is an unsustainable political pathology in which we have abdicated our responsibility and our power to a dysfunctional government. It is simply not how you do things.*

as a public utility by Public Law 4-45, CUC has fallen prey to the whims of a fickle public that wants First World service at Third World prices. In the end, though, we get what we pay for—unreliable power, one hour of water a day in some villages, and a utility corporation that is prone to abuse and corruption.

But perhaps the most egregious of all entitlement programs is the government itself, which has metastasized like a cancer into the largest employer of local residents in the Commonwealth. In particular, since Gov. Froilan Tenorio's Executive Order 94-2 reorganized the Office of Personnel Management under the Executive Branch, the CNMI government has grown so much that, per capita, it is six bigger than the entire Japanese government!

This has resulted in what I call parasitic politics. We see this with every campaign season, when politicians trade votes for jobs. Politicians are parasites that feed off of voters, and voters are para-



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# Long-term status for foreign workers: The Virgin Islands experience

Last week we wrote about the Department of Interior's recent "Report on the Alien Worker Population in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands." The report recommended to the U.S. Congress that long-term status be granted to foreign workers who have legally resided in the NMI for five years. It made five alternative proposals for such status:

1. U.S. citizenship conferred by Act of Congress;
2. Permanent resident status ("green card") leading to US citizenship under the INA; five qualifying years spent anywhere in the U.S. or its territories;
3. Permanent resident status ("green card") leading to US citizenship under the INA; five qualifying years spent in the CNMI;
4. Status like that granted to citizens of the FAS, which would allow qualified aliens to live and work anywhere in the U.S. or its territories;
5. Status like that granted to citizens of the FAS, which would allow qualified aliens to live and work in the CNMI only.

Alternative No. 3 has a precedent in the U.S. Virgin Islands, where an opportunity for permanent residence was offered to approximately 20,000 alien workers in 1982, by an act of Congress.

## A short overview of the U.S. Virgin Islands

There are many similarities between the U.S. Virgin Islands and the Northern Mariana Islands. Both are tropical islands that are rich in natural beauty but poor in natural resources. Both had their development curtailed by a series of exploitative colonial administrations. Both are small in land area and population and remote from the centers of global commercial activity. The total land area of the three main Virgin Islands is 133 square miles; the total population as of 2000 was 108,612. The NMI and the Virgin Islands both rely on tourism as their primary economic activity. Both are relatively close to continental tourist markets: Saipan is 1458 miles from Tokyo; St. Thomas is 1586 miles from New York.

The U.S. Virgin Islands consists of three major islands, St. Thomas, St. Croix and St. John. Like Saipan, St. Thomas is mountainous with an excellent natural harbor. It has always been and remains the commercial and, now, governmental center of the islands. Like Tinian, St. Croix is mostly flat and agricultural, the heritage of a former plantation economy, although it has acquired some major manufacturing, such as an oil refinery, in recent decades. Like Rota, St. John is the smallest, least populated of the islands; it boasts exquisite natural beauty (over one half of the island is designated a national park), and very limited development. The closest U.S. neighbor is the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, about 90 miles west of St. Croix, with a much larger population and urban development and delights, much like Guam is to us.

The great majority of the people of the U.S. Virgin Islands are of African descent; their ancestors were brought to the islands as slaves to work on sugar plantations during colonial times. Slavery was abolished in the Virgin Islands by the then Danish governor in 1848, after a slave revolt. Aspects of African culture are much better preserved than in the United States. In the United States, slave owners preferred to mix their slave populations; it was thought that slaves, who shared a same tribal identity or spoke the same language, would be more likely to rebel. In the West Indies (of which the Virgin Islands are a part), slave owners preferred groups of slaves from the same tribe or linguistic group. They thought that this natural cohesion made for a more effective work force. African origins are apparent in food, music and dance. A blend of African and slave heritage defines family life, which is primarily matriarchal: women of childbearing age are also the wage earners, children are often reared by their maternal grandmothers, who have retired from the job market. Paternal participation is variable. Affluent families follow a more Western, patriarchal model.

After bouncing between several European colonial powers, the Virgin Islands became a Danish Crown Colony in 1754. The United States developed an interest in the islands after acquiring Puerto Rico in 1898, in the aftermath of the Spanish-American War. Germany had serious ambitions, in the later part of the 19<sup>th</sup> and the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, to expand its fledgling colonial empire. During World War I, the United States was again concerned that Germany might try to acquire the islands. After a number of failed attempts, the U.S. purchased the Virgin Islands from Denmark in 1917, for \$25 million. U.S. citizenship was granted to the inhabitants of the islands in 1927.

## Guest workers in the V.I.

The economy of the Virgin Islands experienced a spectacular growth during the 1960s and 1970s, mostly in tourism and related industries, including construction. The islands could not supply the workforce needed. The population tripled between 1960 and 1980, growing from 32,424 to 96,569. This was due primarily to the influx of guest workers, called "down-islanders," from neighboring, poorer, non-U.S. islands. The number of aliens in the islands was a mere 3,200 in 1960; by 1970 it had grown to 34,000. Migrants constituted 94% of the construction work force in 1968 and 45% of the entire work force. Although the migrant workers were culturally and racially similar to the Virgin Islanders, there were tensions and social dislocation. The local perception was that the migrant workers were a benefit to U.S. mainland owned hotels and businesses but a detriment to the community. Political pressure mounted to both limit the entry of additional migrant workers as well to stabilize the status of those who were already present.

In the early decades after U.S. acquisition, inter-island migration remained free and unregulated, as it had always been. In 1941, the Immigration & Naturalization Service, the predecessor authority to USCIS, assumed immigration control of the U.S. Virgin Islands. In 1952, in response to hotel and agricultural interest in the islands, Congress extended the H-2 visa program to the islands. This allowed "temporary workers" to be hired in "permanent" positions. The economic boom of the 1960's brought increasing numbers of migrant workers to the V.I. In 1970, Congress amended the Immigration and Nationality Act ("INA") to allow H2 workers to bring in their spouses and children. This created a further influx of aliens. In the same year, the U.S. Department of Labor, permitted H2 workers to change employers. This created an added incentive for the migrant workers to remain and work rather than to return to their home islands.

The native Virgin Islanders felt threatened; they felt that unless something was done, they would become a minority in their own land. The Virgin Islands legislature enacted a series of labor laws that created a local preference in hiring, reserved certain jobs for locals, and required employers of aliens to follow complex and burdensome procedures to establish the non-availability of local labor for each position. Several lawsuits followed but the protectionist scheme was finally struck down as inconsistent with the INA and unlawful under the Supremacy Clause. *Rogers v. Larson*, 563 F.2d 617 (3<sup>rd</sup> Cir. 1977). The Virgin Islands retaliated by trying to restrict aliens' access to schools, housing, health and welfare benefits. This too was challenged in Court with the result that alien children were entitled to equal access to education. After the dust settled, 80% of new enrollees in the next school year were aliens. Clearly, the situation called for a political solution.

## Permanent resident status for 'down island' nonimmigrant workers

In response to rising political pressure, the House Judiciary Com-

missioned a study in 1976 which issued the following recommendation:

a. The President and Congress should give high priority to the various problems confronting the U.S. Virgin Islands, particularly to the problem of the legal status of the non-immigrant alien work force in the islands.

b. The government and citizenry of the U.S. Virgin Islands should have a greater voice in the establishment of immigration policy for the islands.

Two years after this recommendation, the Virgin Islands legislature enacted a bill, which with the support of the Virgin Islands governor, was introduced in Congress by the then Virgin Islands non-voting delegate, Ron De Lugo, as the Virgin Islands Nonimmigrant Alien Adjustment Act. The bill made its way rapidly through Congress and became P.L. 97-271 on August 20, 1982.

The law had the following major provisions:

1. It terminated the guest worker program previously in effect. Future entry by foreign workers would be limited and strictly construed.
2. It allowed nonimmigrant foreign workers, and their spouses and children, who were physically present and had lived in the Virgin Islands legally and continuously for the previous seven (7) years, to apply for adjustment of status ("green card") under the INA.
3. Application for adjustment of status had to be made within one year of the effective date of the new law.

How did this program work out? It is hard to say because we really don't know how many people were potentially eligible under the new law. The DOI report, issued less than two weeks ago, puts the number at 20,000. Other, contemporary, sources put it much lower: 5,600 (INS); 8,529 (Governor of the V.I.). It appears that not more than 3,000 people applied for the status; we don't know how many followed through and actually received it. The decline in economy in the Virgin Islands made migration less attractive. We anticipate that, in spite of the continuing economic downturn, a greater percentage of foreign workers in the CNMI would take advantage of any similar program.

We acknowledge a special thanks to Arnold H. Liebowitz, whose 1989 book *Defining Status* was a major source for much of this article. Commentary on aspects of life in the Virgin Islands is based on Maya's personal experience living in St. Thomas from 1968 to 1975.

*The information contained in this column is intended as general information only, and not as individual legal advice. Readers should obtain professional legal advice before taking action with respect to their individual situations. Readers may submit questions regarding federalization or immigration issues to the authors by email to lex-marianas@pticom.com. Readers may also e-mail written questions through the Saipan Tribune at editor@saipantribune.com.*

## IMMIGRATION FORUM

By **MAYA KARA** and **BRUCE MAILMAN**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



*Maya Kara is a native of Hungary and comes to the practice of law by way of her interest in Asian history. Bruce Mailman is a native of Bakersfield, California and was a private investigator in California prior to becoming a lawyer. Both have lived and practiced law in the CNMI for over 20 years, Maya in government service and Bruce in private practice. They are married and are partners in the law firm of Mailman & Kara, LLC in Garapan, Saipan.*

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## FAILURES

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citizens. To expect less government means more than just asking less of our leaders. James Madison had it right in Federalist paper #51: "If men were angels, no government would be necessary. If angels were to govern men, neither external nor internal controls on government would be necessary." Well, contrary to their egos and campaign promises, our politicians are no angels. That is why we must limit their terms, limit their expenditure authority, and ultimately, limit their power.

After all, the best way to expect less from politicians is to give them less to work with. But it is not enough to expect less from government. We must also give more as citizens. We must give more in taxes to pay for the actual cost of essential

government services. If we want better schools, better utilities, better health care, and better public safety, then we must be willing to pay for it. Either we cut the current tax rebate, as House Bill 17-50 proposes to do, or we add a new tax, such as a property tax or a sale tax. One way or another, we need to pay for the actual cost of these services, and stop shortchanging ourselves. We must also give more personal responsibility. Rather than relying on the government for jobs, handouts, and a better economy, we should take it upon ourselves to learn more, work hard, and generate the kind of productivity that will improve the economy for everyone. We cannot wait for the government to generate economic prosperity. We must do it by ourselves, for ourselves.

Lastly, we must give more in civic engagement. As Tina Sablan put it in her now famous Commonwealth Manifesto, "Elected officials only have much power as we give them, and it is up to us

to demand the representation we deserve...as ordinary citizens we are more than capable of mobilizing to achieve tremendous success when we are focused, determined, and undaunted." Democracy is not a spectator sport. It requires, as Thomas Jefferson once wrote, "eternal vigilance."

That kind of focused, determined, and undaunted, vigilant work will not be easy. Treating our cancer will be very, very hard work, and results will not happen overnight. But it is work that must be done. Nothing short of our future is at stake. It is a future that calls on all of us to live up to the immortal words of John F. Kennedy: "Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country."






To bring those words home to the CNMI, I say: "Ask not what your government can do for you—ask what you can do for yourself, what you can do for your community, what we can do for our Commonwealth."



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲86 ▼79
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲88 ▼78
Yap	Sunny	▲89 ▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲83 ▼77
Pohnpei	Mostly Sunny	▲88 ▼77
Kosrae	Showers	▲90 ▼80
Majuro	Showers	▲87 ▼79

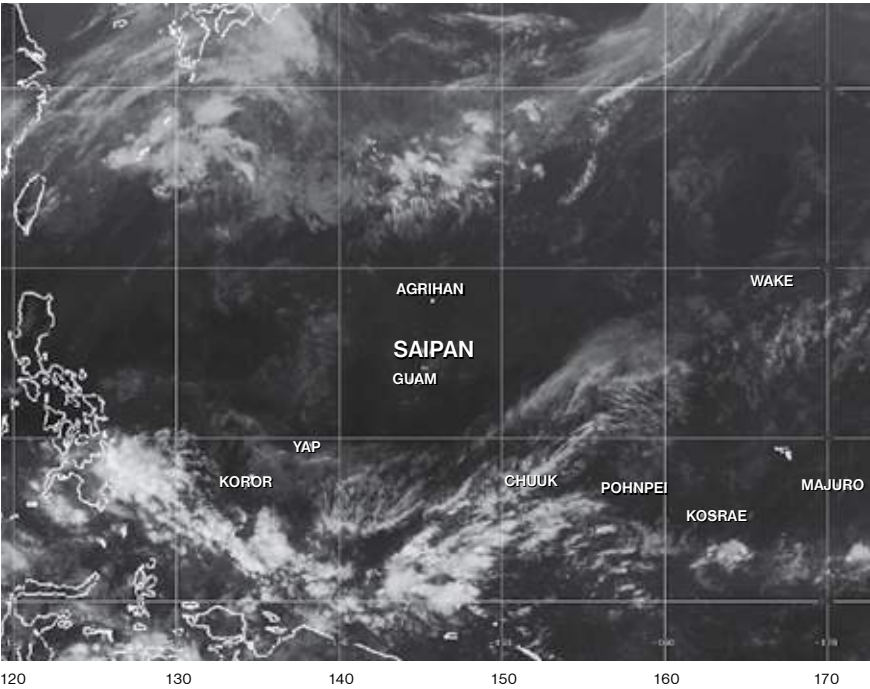
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲65 ▼61
Beijing	Sunny	▲80 ▼53
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲77 ▼67
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲84 ▼73
London	Partly Cloudy	▲54 ▼41
Los Angeles	Windy	▲68 ▼52
Manila	Thundershowers	▲94 ▼77
Melbourne	Showers	▲57 ▼47
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲85 ▼76
New York	Showers	▲57 ▼51
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲62 ▼52
Paris	Showers	▲57 ▼45
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲62 ▼52
Rome	Showers	▲73 ▼57
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲63 ▼43
San Francisco	Sunny	▲57 ▼49
Seoul	Sunny	▲68 ▼47
Tokyo	Showers	▲66 ▼54
Washington, DC	Showers	▲61 ▼61

### Tides

Saipan Harbor			
5:13 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
12:14 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
6:41 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



### PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, MAY 10, 2010

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Convergent southwest winds are causing cloudiness and patchy rain north of the CNMI to the north of a line from 24N130E to 22N140E to 25N150E. Trade-wind convergence is causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms southwest of Koror, Palau within 125 miles of a line from 6N130E to 1N139E and southwest of Chuuk within 200 miles of a line from EQ144E to 5N150E and from south of Kosrae across Butaritari Atoll to near the date line southeast of Majuro within 100 miles of a line from 2N163E to 2N173E to 5N178E.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:50 AM	6:37 PM
Wednesday	5:49 AM	6:37 PM
Thursday	5:49 AM	6:38 PM
Friday	5:49 AM	6:38 PM
Saturday	5:49 AM	6:38 PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	3:24 AM	4:08 PM
Wednesday	4:03 AM	5:00 PM
Thursday	4:45 AM	5:55 PM
Friday	5:33 AM	6:53 PM
Saturday	5:33 AM	6:53 PM

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

#### PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

#### CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

#### REQUIREMENTS

##### For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

##### For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

#### HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com) or [jayvee\\_vallejera@saipantribune.com](mailto:jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com).
  - Fax: (670) 235-3740
  - Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
  - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

#### POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 7, 2010

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
<b>ROTA (ROP)-GUAM</b>	<b>GUAM-ROTA (ROP)</b>
C09597 5:00am 5:30am 1, 5	C09598 6:30pm 7:00pm 4, 7
<b>SAIPAN-GUAM</b>	<b>GUAM-SAIPAN</b>
C09317 4:25am 5:15am Daily	C09316 2:45am 3:35am Daily
C09313 8:30am 9:20am Daily	C09596 7:00am 7:50am Daily
C09601 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7	C09600 10:05am 10:55am Daily
C09603 3:05pm 3:55pm Daily	C09602 1:40pm 2:30pm 1, 4, 5, 7
C09605 6:35pm 7:25pm Daily	C09604 5:10pm 6:00pm Daily
C09599 9:35pm 10:25pm Daily	C09606 8:10pm 9:00pm Daily
<b>SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)</b>	<b>NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN</b>
DL287 5:55am 8:35am Daily	DL290 10:00am 2:35pm Daily
DL297 3:35pm 6:15pm Daily	DL298 10:30am 3:05pm Daily
DL289 4:35pm 7:15pm Daily	DL288 8:40pm 1:15am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)</b>	<b>BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN</b>
OZ608 3:20am 6:50am 1, 5	OZ607 9:00pm 2:20am+1 4, 7
<b>SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)</b>	<b>SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN</b>
OZ604 2:20am 6:10am 1	OZ605 9:00am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ603 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7
OZ606 3:30pm 7:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7	OZ603 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
<b>SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)</b>	<b>SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN</b>
FM844 2:50am 5:40am 2, 6	FM843 7:15pm 1:50am+1 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)</b>	<b>GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN</b>
CZ3008 3:30am 6:40am 2, 6	CZ3007 7:30pm 2:40am+1 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)</b>	<b>MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN</b>
OZ604/701 2:20am 11:25am 1 via ICN	OZ704/605 12:10am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604/701 2:50am 11:25am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	via ICN
OZ606/703 2:20am 11:00pm 1 via ICN	OZ706/607 3:35am 2:20am+1 4, 7 via PUS
OZ606/703 2:50am 11:00pm 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	C0890/9606 10:55am 9:00pm 6 via GUM
OZ608/705 3:20am 12:10am+1 1, 5 via PUS	OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN
C09317/891 4:25am 9:45am 6 via GUM	OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C09603/893 3:05pm 9:10pm 3, 5 via GUM-Palau	PR110/C09596 10:00pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C09603/933 3:05pm 8:40pm Daily via GUM	C0892/9596 10:10pm 7:50am+1 3, 5 via GUM-Palau
<b>SAIPAN-HONG KONG</b>	<b>HONG KONG-SAIPAN</b>
OZ604/721 2:20am 11:45am 1 via ICN	OZ724/605 12:30am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ604/721 2:50am 11:45am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ750/605 1:00am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ606/749 3:30pm 11:00pm 4, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN
C09603/909 3:05am 9:30pm 1, 5 via GUM	OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
<b>Guam-Rota</b>	<b>Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**</b>
FRE 100 7:00am 7:30am Daily	FRE 113 11:40am 11:50am Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>	FRE 115 1:00pm 1:10pm Daily
FRE 100 7:50am 8:20am Daily	FRE 117 2:30pm 2:40pm Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>	FRE 119 4:00pm 4:10pm Daily
FRE 200 9:00am 9:30am Daily	FRE 121 4:40pm 4:50pm Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>	FRE 123 * 5:40pm 5:50pm Daily
FRE 200 9:50am 10:15am Daily	FRE 125 * 6:00pm 6:10pm Daily
<b>Guam-Rota</b>	
FRE 300 4:00pm 4:30pm Daily	
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>	
FRE 300 4:50pm 5:25pm Daily	
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>	
FRE 400 6:00pm 6:30pm Daily	
<b>Rota-Guam</b>	
FRE 400 6:45pm 7:15pm Daily	
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>	
FRE 101 6:45am 6:55am Daily	
FRE 103 7:30am 7:40am Daily	
FRE 105 8:00am 8:10am Daily	
FRE 107 8:40am 8:50am Daily	
FRE 109* 9:10am 9:20am Daily	
FRE 111* 10:45am 10:55am Daily	
	FRE 102 7:05am 7:15am Daily
	FRE 104 7:50am 8:00am Daily
	FRE 106** 8:20am 8:30am Daily
	FRE 108** 9:00am 9:10am Daily
	FRE 110 10:00am 10:10am Daily
	FRE 112 11:05am 11:15am Daily
	FRE 114 12:00pm 12:10pm Daily
	FRE 116 1:30pm 1:40pm Daily
	FRE 118 2:50pm 3:00pm Daily
	FRE 120** 4:20pm 4:30pm Daily
	FRE 122** 5:00pm 5:10pm Daily
	FRE 124 6:05pm 6:15pm Daily
	FRE 126 6:20pm 6:30pm Daily



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)



# USCG conducts drug interdiction training for Army

GUAM—Fifteen members of the Army's 196th Infantry Brigade visited Coast Guard Sector Guam on April 30, and joined the Coast Guard cutter *Washington* for an exercise of Coast Guard law enforcement capability in Apra Harbor.

During the training the Army visitors were able to view the capabilities of the 110-foot Coast Guard cutter during a mock law enforcement boarding. The cutter simulated receipt of intelligence that there was a possible "drug run" taking place west of Guam and they had to interdict the vessel. The steps to disable the suspect vessel were discussed and a Coast Guard Auxiliary boat was boarded by the *Washington's* boarding team. After the search for drugs was complete the ship's members were detained and the scenario ended. The Army Brigade members asked questions pertaining to the weapons posture and the ships maneuvering and speed abilities.

*Washington's* executive officer LTJG Megan Sullivan described the cutter's capabilities in relation to drug interdiction and she walked the brigade members through the steps that would be taken during a law enforcement boarding. Each member of the Army Brigade even got a chance to steer and work the ships engines.

"This was an excellent opportunity for the Army commanders and their enlisted counterparts from the 196th Infantry Brigade to learn about the mission, task, and purpose of the U.S. Coast Guard units stationed here on Guam," said LCDR Nick Simmons, *Washington's* commanding officer. (USCG)

## 20 NMC-ABE Tinian students gear up for May 22 graduation

The Northern Marianas College's Adult Basic Education program will be graduating 20 students from its Tinian Instructional Site's at the College's 30th Commencement Exercise scheduled for May 22.

The Adult School, a high school equivalency program under ABE, gives a second chance for interested individuals who would like to obtain a high school equivalency diploma. Interested individuals who are 17 years old or older and who have been out of school for at least six months are eligible to enroll in the program if they are a U.S. citizen, a CNMI resident, or an FAS citizen.

This AS Program is designed to meet the needs of working adults. The Adult School Program consists of two phases: Academic Skills (Phase I) and Career Skills (Phase II).

The Academic Skills component is a series of five modules covering essential life and work skills. These five modules include occupational knowledge, community resources, consumer economics, health, and government and law.

The Career Skills component under Phase II consists of one of the following three programs: career courses, on-the-job experience, or advanced academic skills. To meet the technological demands of society, students who are enrolled at the Tinian instructional site are encouraged to take up computer literacy courses.

The Tinian instructional site has been successfully graduating students from the Adult School since spring 2005. As of today, students who have graduated from the Adult School Program have obtained a job or a promotion, joined the military, or advanced into post secondary institutions.

Ryan Dela Cruz, an alumnus of the AS program and who was also a part of NMC's graduating class of 2007, is now working at the Tinian Junior Senior High School as Librarian Aide and Information Technician.

"Adult School is a wonderful program, and I believe that everybody in life should have a second chance. The Adult School gave me that chance," said Dela Cruz.

NMC staff are currently preparing for the upcoming Tinian Adult School banquet scheduled for May 12, 2010. The banquet will start off with Mass at the San Jose Church.

A total of 20 students will be receiving a high school equivalency diploma during NMC's 30th Commencement Exercise scheduled for May 22, 2010. The students will be traveling to Saipan a day prior to participate in the graduation rehearsal.

"The students are very excited to finally complete this chapter in their life. The community is invited to attend this special event," said Maria Aguon, Tinian instructional site program coordinator.

To enroll in the NMC ABE program, interested individuals may pick up an application at the Tinian instructional site. NMC will begin accepting applications for Academic Year 2010-2011 on May 24 - July 23, 2010. First day of instruction for Academic Year 2010-2011 is scheduled for Aug. 16, 2010.

For more information about the Tinian ABE program, contact Maria H. Aguon at the Tinian instructional site at 433-0657/0649 or e-mail mariaa@nmcnet.edu.

Individuals interested in instructing courses in the AS program are encouraged to submit their applications to NMC Human Resource Office located in building P. All applications will be forwarded to the ABE State Office for review and then routed to respective content area departments for certification.

The Adult Basic Education Program receives the bulk of its funding from the U.S. Department of Education/ Office of Vocational and Adult Education. (NMC)



Members of the Army's 196th Infantry Brigade join Coast Guard Sector Guam aboard Coast Guard cutter *Washington* on April 30 for an exercise of Coast Guard law enforcement capability in Apra Harbor, Guam.

## 200 industry reps attend Marianas Road Show in Korea

Amid an economic recovery in South Korea, the travel industry is showing high interest in the Northern Mariana Islands, evidenced by the 200 industry reps who attended the Marianas Road Show 2010. Offered by the Marianas Visitors Authority in late April, the on-site training sessions, co-sponsored by Asiana Airlines, aim to strengthen relationships with travel partners and major travel agents in Korea.

On April 20, 110 travel professionals attended the Road Show seminars in Busan. D.W. Rhee, general manager of Asiana Airlines in Busan region, thanked the MVA for partnering with the airline to promote the islands.

On the heels of a honeymoon promotion held in Gwang-ju in March, which attracted 700



Over 100 Korean travel professionals attended the Marianas Road Show put on by the Marianas Visitors Authority in Busan on April 20, 2010. The road show was staged in Busan and Gwang-ju to educate major travel agents and travel partners on the Northern Mariana Islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

couples to the Northern Marianas, the MVA hosted 80 industry partners in the city on April 21 to conduct Road Show

training. Jong-Ho Sun, Asiana senior manager in Gwang-ju, expressed particular interest in further development of NMI

honeymoon promotions and FAM (familiarization) tours.

"With a 48 percent increase in arrivals from Korea in March and the country's economic recovery, we are very optimistic about growth from this market throughout the rest of this year," said MVA marketing manager Bruce Bateman.

DFS Saipan, Fiesta Resort and Spa, Palms Resort Saipan, PIC Saipan, Saipan World Resort and Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino participated in the training tour, which emphasized the attractions particular to the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota. Each hotel gave a presentation to help travel agents sell the Northern Marianas more effectively. Rota Resort also participated and donated hotel stays for a raffle among participants. (MVA)

### PAWS CORNER

## Animals up for adoption

PAWS and Paradise Island Animal Hospital have a few great animals that are in need of responsible homes:

### Female dog

A beautiful black and tan female boonie dog, about 3-4 months old, is up for adoption to a good home. She is very calm and sweet. She has been treated for fleas and ticks, worms, and vaccinated by Dr. Tudor at Paradise Island Animal Hospital (234-9669).

If you are interested in adopting this nice gal, call Bryan at 233-5545 or e-mail cbjphoto@saipan.com.

### Kittens, Kittens, Kittens

Three kittens, all from separate

litters, are currently up for adoption at Paradise Island Animal Hospital. The kittens have been dewormed and treated for fleas. All three are thought to be about 6-7 weeks of age and are cute and playful. There are two females and one male.

If you are interested in meeting these kittens, visit Paradise Island Animal Hospital between 9am-12pm or 2pm-5pm or call 234-9669.

### Black puppies

PAWS and Paradise Island Animal Hospital have two adorable black puppies that are up for adoption. The puppies are about 6 weeks of age, dewormed, and vaccinated.

If you are interested in meeting these two little balls of energy,



This black and tan female boonie dog, about 3-4 months old, is up for adoption to a good home.

visit Paradise Island Animal Hospital or call 234-9669.

### Your help is needed

PAWS, Paradise Island Animal Hospital, and the Mayor's Office have teamed up to help the animals and people of Saipan. The above rescues and their medical costs are all made possible through PAWS donations and volunteers, in addition to contributions made by Paradise Island Animal Hospital.

If you are interested in making a donation to PAWS, or would like to volunteer, contact PAWS at 285-PAWS. You may also visit the PAWS Web site at [www.paws-saipan.org](http://www.paws-saipan.org) and download a PAWS membership form or renew a membership. (PAWS)



# Business

## EU sets massive defense package for embattled euro

**BRUSSELS (AP)**—The European Union and the International Monetary Fund pledged nearly \$1 trillion Monday to defend the embattled euro, hoping to repel relentless attacks on the weakest of Europe's debt-laden nations and prevent the common currency from disintegrating.

Central banks around the world joined the coordinated effort to prop up the euro and prevent Europe's debt crisis from derailing the global economic recovery. The U.S. Federal Reserve reopened a currency "swap" program to ship billions of U.S. dollars overseas in a bid to pump more short-term cash into the financial system and ensure banks have the dollars they need. Separately, the ECB jumped into the bond market, saying it is ready to buy debt from the eurozone—EU nations that use the euro—to shore up liquidity in "dysfunctional" markets.

Many investors, rattled for weeks by the prospect Greece would default on its mountain of debt, heaved with relief. The euro climbed to \$1.2963, up from the 14-month low of \$1.2523 it hit late last week. Japan's Nikkei 225 stock average rose 1.3 percent to 10,499.25

## Federal Reserve opens credit line to Europe

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—The Federal Reserve late Sunday opened a program to ship U.S. dollars to Europe in a move to head off a broader financial crisis on the continent.

Other central banks, including the Bank of Canada, the Bank of England, the European Central Bank, the Swiss National Bank and the Bank of Japan also are involved in the dollar swap effort.

The move comes after the European Union and International Monetary Fund pledged a nearly \$1 trillion defense package for the embattled euro, hoping to calm jittery markets

and halt attacks on the eurozone's weakest members. The ECB also jumped into the bond market Sunday night, saying it is ready to buy eurozone bonds to shore up liquidity in "dysfunctional" markets.

The Fed's action reopens a program put in place during the 2008 global financial crisis under which dollars are shipped overseas through the foreign central banks. In turn, these central banks can lend the dollars out to banks in their home countries that are in need of dollar funding to prevent the European crisis from spreading further.

The Fed said action is be-

ing taken "in response to the reemergence of strains in U.S. dollar short-term funding markets in Europe," and to prevent the spread of that strain to other markets and financial centers.

A so-called "swap" line with the Bank of Canada provides up to \$30 billion. Figures weren't provided for the other central banks. The arrangements are authorized through January 2011.

The debt crisis first erupted in Greece. Fears that it could spread to Spain, Portugal and other eurozone countries. The crisis has pushed up demand for the U.S. dollar and has sharply weakened the value of

the euro, the currency used by 16 European countries. Eurozone ministers and the IMF this weekend approved a \$140 billion rescue package of loans to Greece for the next three years to keep it from imploding.

The Fed had wound down these crisis-era programs with other central banks in February, along with other emergency programs to get lending flowing more freely again and return stability to financial markets. At that time, financial strains in the United States were easing, and the Fed began to take steps to move policy closer to normal.

soothing words failed to convince investors that Greece's financial implosion could be contained.

Markets had battered the euro and Greek government bonds even as EU leaders insisted for days that Greece's problems were a unique combination of bad management, free spending and statistical cheating that doesn't apply to other euro-zone nations.

Market jitters also partly contributed to a nearly 1,000-point drop in the Dow Jones industrials last Thursday. The Securities and Exchange Commission is meeting with heads of exchanges Monday to discuss how conflicting trading rules may have exacerbated the historic stock market plunge.

In the end, even longtime skeptic Germany realized Europe had to show the money after financial attacks on Greece's debt seemed poised to spread to other weak European nations such as Portugal and Spain. Fear of default led to investors demanding high interest rates that Greece could not pay, forcing it to seek a bailout. Many feared market skepticism would make Portugal and Spain pay more and more to borrow, worsening their plight.

## What next? After failure, BP mulls gusher options

**ON THE GULF OF MEXICO (AP)**—A day after icy slush clogged the massive box they hoped would contain an out-of-control oil gusher in the Gulf of Mexico, BP officials on Sunday said they may try again—this time with a smaller box.

They also were considering several other options to stop the daily rush of at least 200,000 gallons of crude, which began washing up on beaches in thick blobs over the weekend.

With crippled equipment littering the ocean floor, oil company engineers scrambled to devise a fresh method to cap the ruptured well. Their previous best hope for containing the leak quickly, a four-story containment box, became encrusted with deep-sea crystals Saturday and had to be cast aside.

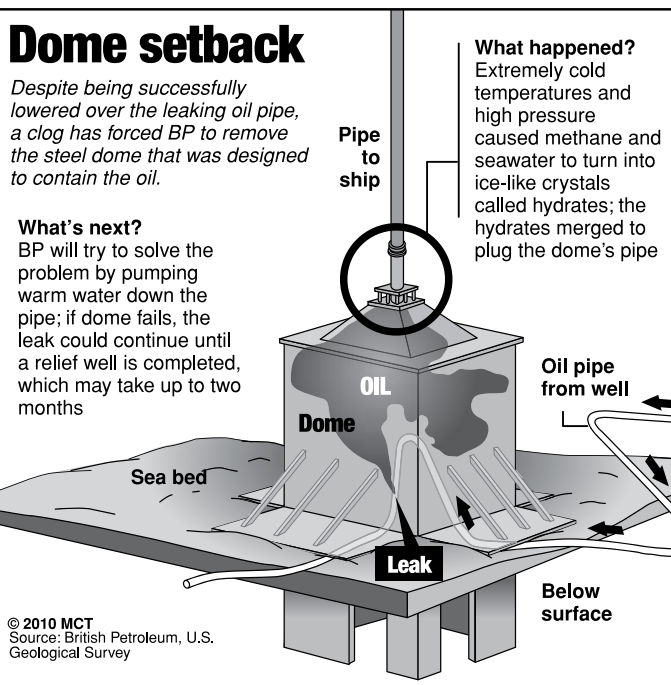
Among the plans under consideration:

- Deploying a new, smaller

### Dome setback

*Despite being successfully lowered over the leaking oil pipe, a clog has forced BP to remove the steel dome that was designed to contain the oil.*

**What's next?**  
BP will try to solve the problem by pumping warm water down the pipe; if dome fails, the leak could continue until a relief well is completed, which may take up to two months



containment box in the hope that it would be less likely to get clogged. Officials said the new box could be in place by mid-

week. "We're going to pursue the first option that's available to us and we think it'll be the top hat," the smaller box, BP Chief Oper-

ating Officer Doug Suttles said.

- Cutting the riser pipe, which extends from the mile-deep well, undersea and using larger piping to bring the gushing oil to a drill ship on the surface, a tactic considered difficult and less desirable because it will increase the flow of oil.

- Shooting mud and concrete directly into the well's blowout preventer, a device that was supposed to shut off the flow of oil after a deadly April 20 oil rig explosion but failed. The technique, known as a "top kill," is supposed to plug up the well and would take two to three weeks.

- Try again using the containment box that failed to work Saturday after finding a way to keep the crystals from building up.

The engineers appear to be "trying anything people can think of" to stop the leak, said Ed Overton, a LSU professor of environmental studies.

## Venezuela importers: Chavez strangling business

**CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)**—Business leaders accused President Hugo Chavez on Sunday of attempting to strangle Venezuelan businesses that rely on imports by making them pay more for foreign-made products.

They said Chavez is irresponsibly allowing the black-market rate for U.S. dollars to spiral upward, which increases costs for close to half of the country's importers.

"The government doesn't con-

sider it a priority," said Alfonso Rivas, a businessman and president of the non-governmental group Cedice, which promotes individual and economic freedoms. Chavez set a two-tiered exchange rate in January, pegging the bolivar at 2.60 to the dollar for priority goods such as food and 4.30 per dollar for imports of products the government deems nonessential.

But the government has not

distributed enough dollars at the official rate to satisfy demand, forcing close to half of Venezuela's importers to buy much more expensive greenbacks on the black market. The black-market rate for the U.S. dollar reached 8.00 bolivars last week—almost double the official rate for non-essential imports and triple the rate for essential imports.

For many businesses, "all the products that cannot be import-

ed at the official rate must be obtained on the parallel market, and that's going to create more inflation," Rivas said.

In a televised speech Saturday, Chavez blamed wealthy business owners for soaring prices, suggesting they are conspiring to undermine his government's anti-inflationary measures such as price controls on hundreds of basic products ahead of congressional elections in September.

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Asian markets climb as EU moves to defend euro

**SINGAPORE (AP)**—Asian stock markets climbed Monday as the European Union agreed on a nearly \$1 trillion defense package for the embattled euro, hoping to contain global fallout from Greece's debt problems and protect its common currency. Japan's Nikkei 225 stock average rose 1.5 percent to 10,523.61, and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index jumped 1.3 percent to 20,187.59. Other major benchmarks in the region advanced as relieved investors began buying after big declines last week. The euro traded at \$1.2903, up from the 14-month low of \$1.2523 it hit late last week while stock futures suggested Wall Street would welcome the euro defense plan. Dow futures climbed 246 points, or 2.4 percent, to 10,581.

#### Spike in disability claims clogs overloaded system

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Nearly 2 million people are waiting to find out if they qualify for Social Security disability benefits. It will be a long wait for most, even if they eventually win their cases. The Social Security system is so overwhelmed by applications for disability benefits that many people are waiting more than two years for their first payment. In Ohio, Michigan, Minnesota and other states, the wait can be even longer. The Social Security commissioner, Michael J. Astrue, says the delays are unacceptable, particularly for people who have paid payroll taxes for years to support the system and now are unable to work because of debilitating medical problems. Astrue has had some success in reducing a case backlog that has plagued the system for years. But a spike in new applications, linked to the economic recession, threatens to swamp the system again.

#### US gas prices jump more than 7 cents in 2 weeks

**CAMARILLO, Calif. (AP)**—The average price of regular gasoline in the United States has jumped more than 7 cents over a two-week period to \$2.92. That's according to the national Lundberg Survey of fuel prices released Sunday. Analyst Trilby Lundberg says the average price for a gallon of mid-grade was \$3.05. Premium was at \$3.16. Denver had the lowest average price among cities surveyed at \$2.71 a gallon for regular unleaded. Chicago was highest at \$3.22. The average for diesel nationwide was \$3.15, up about 7 cents from two weeks ago.



# Nation

## White House says Pakistan Taliban behind NY bomb

WASHINGTON (AP)—Saying they obtained new evidence, senior White House officials said Sunday that the Pakistani Taliban were behind the failed Times Square bombing.

The attempt marks the first time the group has been able to launch an attack on U.S. soil. And while U.S. officials have downplayed the threat - citing the bomb's lack of sophistication - the incident in Times Square and Christmas Day airline bomber indicate growing strength by overseas terrorist groups linked to al-Qaida even as the CIA says their operations are seriously degraded.

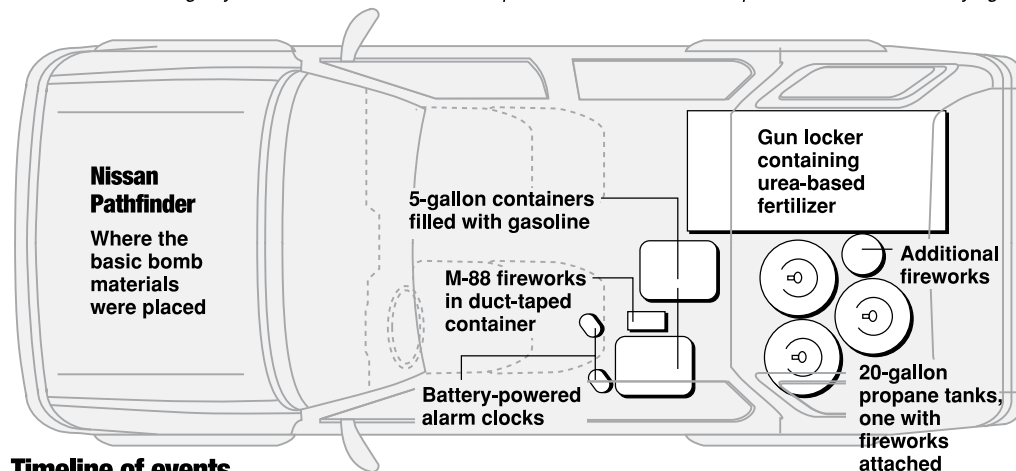
The finding also raises new questions about the U.S. relationship with Pakistan, which is widely known to have al-Qaida and other terrorist groups operating within its borders.

Concerning the Pakistani Taliban, Attorney General Eric Holder said: "We know that they helped facilitate it; we know that they helped direct it. And I suspect that we are going to come up with evidence which shows that they helped to finance it. They were intimately involved in this plot."

John Brennan, the president's homeland security and counterterrorism adviser, made similar remarks, linking

### Built for destruction

Faisal Shahzad allegedly left an SUV loaded with an improvised bomb in Times Square. He was arrested trying to leave the U.S. on a flight to Dubai.



#### About the suspect

- 30-year-old naturalized American citizen
- Raised in Karachi, Pakistan's largest city; reportedly the son of a senior Pakistani air force officer
- Married with two children; they are believed to be living in Pakistan
- Came to America in 1998 on a student visa
- Recently visited Pakistan for about five months, returned to the U.S. in February
- Worked for about three years as a junior financial analyst for Affinion Group in Norwalk, Conn.

#### Timeline of events

April	May 2	May 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shahzad is said to have bought a 1993 Nissan Pathfinder SUV; paid cash</li> </ul>	<p><b>6:28 p.m.</b> Surveillance camera shows SUV entering Times Square; suspect allegedly parks and leaves</p> <p><b>6:30 p.m.</b> Street vendor alerts police when he spots smoke coming from vehicle</p>	<p><b>6:33 p.m.</b> Officer circles car, radios for help; Times Square evacuated and shut down for 10 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vehicle traced to original owner, who gave police contact information about man that purchased SUV</li> <li>• Shahzad added to U.S. no-fly list barring him from air travel</li> <li>• Suspect arrested after being removed from a flight as it prepared to take off for Dubai from New York's JFK airport</li> </ul>

Source: Department of Justice, Reuters

Graphic: Mark Hafer, Los Angeles Times

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the bomber to the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan, or TTP.

Neither official said what the new evidence was.

Faisal Shahzad, a U.S. citizen of Pakistani descent, is believed to have spent five months in Pakistan before returning to the United States in February and preparing his attack.

Shahzad has told investiga-

tors that he trained in the lawless tribal areas of Waziristan, where both al-Qaida and the Pakistani Taliban operate. He was arrested aboard an Emirates Airlines jet in New York just minutes before it was scheduled to take off for Dubai.

After the attack, U.S. officials said they were exploring potential links to terrorist groups over-

seas but said it was likely that Shahzad was acting alone and that it was an isolated incident.

Last week, Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, told NBC News that "at this point I have no information that it's anything other than a one-off." Gen. David Petraeus told The Associated Press that Shahzad apparently

operated as a "lone wolf."

Brennan on Sunday rejected suggestions that the attempted bombing shows that terrorist groups overseas were gaining strength.

"They now are relegated to trying to do these unsophisticated attacks, showing that they have inept capabilities in training," he said.

The link between an attack on U.S. soil and terrorist groups operating inside Pakistan opens up a new chapter in relations between the two countries. Until recently, administration officials have said they thought Islamabad was doing all it could.

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said Washington expects more cooperation from Pakistan in fighting terrorism and warned of "severe consequences" if an attack on U.S. soil were successful and traced back to the South Asian country.

Brennan said Islamabad was being very cooperative in the investigation but that the U.S. wants to know exactly who may have been helping Shahzad.

"There are a number of terrorist and militant groups operating in Pakistan," he said. "And we need to make sure there's no support being given to them by the Pakistani government."

Pakistani army spokesman Maj. Gen. Athar Abbas, who last week said he doubted the Pakistani Taliban had anything to do with the failed bombing, declined to comment Sunday. He said representatives of the country's civilian government should respond. They were not available for comment.

### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Protesters rally against drilling after oil spill

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—About 200 people protested the dangers of offshore drilling at a rally in New Orleans. Protesters signed a large banner Saturday that said "This Is Your Crude Awakening," in reference to the April 20 oil rig explosion that killed 11 people and so far has spilled at least three million of gallons of oil into the Gulf of Mexico. Some protesters held signs with slogans such as "Clean, Baby, Clean" and "Save Our Wetlands Now." Sierra Club President Allison Chin says America needs to clean up more than just the Gulf Coast. Software salesman John Sconza says he's angry the spilled oil wasn't stopped sooner.

#### Teen charged in NJ carnival shooting

NEWARK, N.J. (AP)—Essex County prosecutors say a 17-year-old East Orange boy was the gunman who opened fire at a crowded carnival in northern New Jersey this weekend. The teen, whose name was not released because of his age, wounded another youth Friday night before being shot and wounded by a Bloomfield police officer. He will likely face aggravated assault and weapons charges. Katherine Carter, a prosecutor's office spokeswoman, would not comment on a motive. She said there was no information on whether the victim—another 17-year-old from East Orange who was struck in the arm—knows the suspect. The gunman, who was shot once in the torso, underwent surgery at University Hospital in Newark. The other teen was taken to Clara Mass Medical Center in Newark. Both remained hospitalized Sunday, and were expected to recover.

#### 2 dead, 4 wounded in Oakland shooting

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Oakland police say two men are dead and four women have been hospitalized after at least one gunman opened fire in an unlicensed after-hours nightclub. Investigators say the shooting took place around 2:45 a.m. Sunday in a warehouselike building that been converted into a club offering music, dancing and drinking. When officers arrived, they found the two men dead at the scene. One of the four women hit by gunfire was considered badly wounded. Police did not know the condition of the three other women. Police have not released any names, or determined a motive for the shooting.

## Source: Obama chooses Kagan for Supreme Court

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama will nominate Solicitor General Elena Kagan to the Supreme Court, a person familiar with the president's thinking said Sunday night.

The move positions the court to have three female justices for the first time in history.

The source spoke on condition of anonymity because the decision had not been made public. Obama will announce his choice at 10 a.m. Monday in the East Room of the White House.

Known as sharp and politically savvy, Kagan has led a blazing legal career: first female dean of Harvard Law School, first woman to serve as the top Supreme Court lawyer for any administration, and now first in Obama's mind to succeed legendary liberal Justice John Paul Stevens.

At 50 years old, Kagan would be the youngest justice on the court, one of many factors

working in her favor. She has the chance to extend Obama's legacy for a generation.

Kagan must first win Senate confirmation.

A source close to the selection process said a central element in Obama's choice was Kagan's reputation for bringing together people of competing views and earning their respect.

Kagan came to the fore as a candidate who had worked closely with all three branches of government, a legal mind with both a sense of modesty and sense of humor. The source spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss factors that led to Kagan's impending nomination.

Kagan has clerked for Thurgood Marshall, worked for Bill

Clinton and earned a stellar reputation as a student, teacher and manager of the elite academic world. Her standing has risen in Obama's eyes as his government's lawyer before the high court over the last year.



Kagan

Yet Kagan would be the first justice without judicial experience in almost 40 years. All of the three other finalists she beat out for the job are federal appeals court judges, and all nine of the current justices served on the federal bench before being elevated.

Kagan's fate will be up to a Senate dominated by Democrats, who with 59 votes have more than enough to confirm her, even though they are one shy of being to halt any Republican stalling effort.

For the second straight summer, the nation can expect an intense Supreme Court confirmation debate even though, barring a surprise, Kagan is likely to emerge as a justice.

Supreme Court justices wield enormous power over the daily life of Americans. Any one of them can cast the deciding vote on matters of life and death, individual freedoms and government power. Presidents serve four-year terms; justices have tenure for life.

Republicans have shown no signs in advance that they would try to prevent a vote on Kagan, but they are certain to grill her in confirmation hearings over her experience, her thin record of legal writings and her objections to the military's policy about gays.

When she was confirmed as solicitor general in 2009, only seven Republicans backed her.

## Obama: Education a responsibility of all Americans

HAMPTON, Va. (AP)—President Barack Obama, addressing graduates at historically black Hampton University on Sunday, said that it is the responsibility of all Americans to offer every child the type of education that will make them competitive in an economy in which just a high school diploma is no longer enough.

Obama told the nearly 1,100 graduates assembled in the university's sun-splashed Armstrong Stadium that they have the added responsibility of being role models and mentors in their communities.

Clad in a blue gown, Obama recalled the university's humble beginning in September 1861 as a school for escaped slaves

who sought asylum after fleeing nearby plantations in the Confederate South. Obama said the founders recognized that, with the right education, such barriers as inequality would not persist for long.

"They recognized, as Frederick Douglass once put it, that 'education means emancipation.' They recognized that edu-

cation is how America and its people might fulfill our promise," said Obama, the first black U.S. president.

Drawing parallels to current challenges, Obama noted that Hampton's graduates are leaving school as the economy rebounds from its worst downturn since the 1930s, and with the U.S. at war in Afghanistan and Iraq.



# Asia

## Japan PM meets Cabinet to discuss US Marine base

**TOKYO (AP)**—Japan's prime minister has approved a draft proposal on the relocation of a major U.S. Marine base, paving the way for Japanese and U.S. officials to formally negotiate the plan later this week, reports said Monday.

Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama, whose public approval levels are plunging, met with his top advisers to discuss the draft ahead of working-level talks on the relocation that are scheduled to be held

Wednesday in Washington.

Hatoyama wants to break an impasse on the relocation of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, on the southern island of Okinawa, that has opened a rift between Tokyo and Washington and generated intense opposition from Okinawa residents.

When he took office last September, Hatoyama suggested he wanted to see the functions of the base, which is located in a crowded city, moved off of Okinawa or

outside of Japan altogether.

Hatoyama recently backed away from his earlier stance and had instead indicated he would support an alternate plan to move base operations to a facility farther north.

The issue is becoming heavy baggage for Hatoyama, whose party faces parliamentary elections in July.

Reports say the new plan would involve building an airstrip near the existing base farther north on

Okinawa. The airstrip would be over the coast on raised pilings, which would cut down on its environmental impact.

The new plan would also involve building only one new airstrip, rather than two as had been agreed upon earlier by Washington and Hatoyama's predecessor. It also would spread out training by the Marines and Air Force to other areas around Japan.

Kyodo News reported that

Hatoyama also would try to visit Okinawa soon to further seek local approval. He has vowed to settle the issue by the end of this month, but Kyodo said after the meeting Monday that he had largely given up hope of winning over the support of Okinawans for the plan by that time.

Public support for Japan's prime minister hit a new low in a survey released Monday, with more than half of respondents calling for his resignation

if the relocation issue isn't settled this month.

The national poll by the Yomiuri daily, Japan's top-selling newspaper, found the approval rate for Hatoyama's Cabinet plummeted to 24 percent in May, down 9 points from the previous month. The Yomiuri survey showed the disapproval rate for Hatoyama's Cabinet rose to 67 percent in May from 56 percent in April, with 51 percent of respondents saying the prime minister lacked leadership.

## Filipinos vote amid violence, computer glitches

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—Scattered violence and glitches with vote-counting machines being used for the first time failed to dissuade millions of Filipinos from voting in Monday's elections, seeking a clean start following a decade of corruption-tainted politics.

Sen. Benigno Aquino III—whose father was assassinated while opposing a dictatorship and whose late mother led the “people power” revolt that restored freedoms—commanded a large lead in the last pre-election polls.

But even Aquino was unable to immediately cast his ballot, because a vote-counting machine broke down in his precinct. The Elections Commission extended voting for another hour to make up for delays.

Computer problems and campaign-related violence, which has killed more than 30 people in the past three months, were the main concerns in elections that officials hope will set a new standard for the Philippines' fragile democracy.

For the first time, optical scanning machines will count votes in 76,000 precincts. A software glitch discovered a week ago nearly derailed the vote, but was fixed at the last minute. Still, some machines malfunctioned in the tropical humidity, including in Aquino's hometown of Tarlac, north of Manila.



An elderly Filipino woman reviews her ballot at a voting center in San Juan, east of Manila, Philippines on Monday May 10, 2010.

“This is a new system of voting. We have a longer ballot, so I hope all the people can vote and not be delayed and I hope there will be no long lines of people outside when the voting ends,” Aquino told reporters while waiting for the machine to be fixed.

In the past, manual counts in the world's second-biggest archipelago delayed results for weeks and were prone to fraud. Officials are now expecting early tallies just hours after polls close. About 50 million registered voters in this country of 90 million will elect politicians

for posts from the presidency to municipal councils.

Election Commissioner Gregorio Larrazabal said about 300 out of 76,000 machines had problems but that most already were replaced, adding that the problems were “not as widespread as it's made to appear.”

“And what's important is that if a machine breaks down, there is a replacement and there is a back-up procedure,” he said.

Mario Barreto, 52, said it took him two hours to vote in an elementary school in Manila.

“The most difficult thing was to look for your name and lining

up,” Barreto said.

In another precinct, election volunteer Ging Pimentel said some of the names were missing from voter lists, slowing the process.

But a former election commission chairman, Christian Monsod, said the long lines of voters represent “a celebration of democracy.”

“I was with the Indonesian delegation yesterday and they are here to learn from us because they are also going to automate. I told them you just watch, you watch how our people in elections are going to be

### Some key facts on Philippines' general elections

The Philippines, the world's second-largest archipelago with 90 million people in Southeast Asia, holds general elections for 17,000 positions from the president to municipal councilors Monday.

**WHAT'S AT STAKE:** President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, scarred by vote fraud and corruption allegations, is stepping down after nine tumultuous years as one of the most unpopular leaders since democracy was restored in 1986. Voters are looking for an anti-corruption candidate who can clean up government, restore the credibility of Congress and the judiciary, and improve the economy and public services.

**WHO'S RUNNING:** Sen. Benigno “Noynoy” Aquino III, the only son of late President Corazon Aquino and an assassinated opposition leader, has topped presidential surveys

with a comfortable margin. Topped President Joseph Estrada, former movie star idolized by the poor, is running to clear his name after he was removed and convicted on corruption charges in 2001. Real estate tycoon Sen. Manny Villar is also courting the poor with his rags-to-riches story. Six other presidential candidates are lagging behind.

**THE VOTE:** About 50 million people are eligible to cast their vote, which for the first time will be counted and transmitted electronically using optical scanning machines. First results are expected hours after polls close and complete ones within 48 hours.

**POSSIBLE PITFALLS:** A software glitch in the vote-counting machines led to the last-minute recall and reconfiguration of all memory cards, feeding suspicion of fraud and chaotic system failure. Political violence in the campaign season has killed more than 30 people in addition to 57 massacred Nov. 23 in the southern Philippines in the country's worst election-related attack.

disciplined,” he said.

Troops and gunmen exchanged fire in southern Maguindanao province, where 57

people were massacred in the country's worst election-related attack last year, said army Lt. Gen. Raymundo Ferrer.

## Clues suggest NKorean sub behind warship attack

**TOKYO (AP)**—Experts say North Korea's submarine fleet is technologically backward, prone to sinking or running aground and all but useless outside its own coastal waters.

And yet many are asking: Could it have been responsible for the explosion that sank a South Korean warship in March? And if so, how could a sub have slipped through the defenses of South Korea, which, with significant American backing, maintains a fleet far more sophisticated than its northern neighbor's?

Evidence collected so far indicates a torpedo hit the Cheonan, killing 46 sailors, and suspicion

is growing that it was launched from a small North Korean submarine. That scenario would make it the most serious attack on the South Korean military since the peninsula's war ended in a truce in 1953.

“While the North Korean submarine force reflects dated technology by Western standards, North Korean submarines during wartime would present significant challenges, particularly in coastal areas,” according to the Arlington, Virginia-based Global Security think tank. “North Korea has placed high priority on submarine construction programs, which are ongoing despite its economic hardships.”

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Thai PM pleads for end to 2-month street protests

**BANGKOK (AP)**—Thailand's prime minister pleaded Sunday for an end to two months of street protests paralyzing part of the capital and an acceptance of his reconciliation plan that has been stalled by fresh violence. Hopes that the prolonged protests by so-called Red Shirt demonstrators would end without further bloodshed were dashed when two attacks Friday night killed two policemen and wounded 13 people. The violence occurred just outside the protest occupation zone in Bangkok's prime commercial district, where upscale shopping centers and hotels have been shuttered for weeks. On Sunday, Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva went on nationwide television to ask all parties to accept

his five-point reconciliation plan, which includes new elections Nov. 14.

#### US envoy to meet with Aung San Suu Kyi

**YANGON, Myanmar (AP)**—A top U.S. official was due to meet Myanmar's detained democracy icon Aung San Suu Kyi on Monday, after expressing concerns about the legitimacy of the military-run country's upcoming elections. Kurt Campbell, assistant secretary of state for East Asia, started off his two-day visit by saying Washington was deeply concerned about the political environment the ruling junta has created in the run-up to Myanmar's first election in 20 years. Campbell arrived Sunday and met with senior junta officials in the remote administrative capital of Naypyitaw before fly-

ing Monday to Yangon, the biggest city. He was due to meet Suu Kyi in the afternoon at a government guesthouse near her lakeside villa, diplomats and officials said.

#### Afghan insurgent attack kills NATO soldier

**KABUL (AP)**—NATO says one of its service members has died in an insurgent attack in Afghanistan. The attack happened Sunday in eastern Afghanistan. No further details were released. The death brings to 12 the number of NATO forces killed this month in Afghanistan. Violence and insecurity will be on the agenda Monday as President Hamid Karzai meets with American officials in Washington. Karzai's trip comes after months of rocky relations with the Obama administration.



## World

# Ash from Iceland's volcano shuts European airports

## WORLD BRIEFS

### 'Mountain to climb' for UK parties to reach deal

**LONDON (AP)**—The two parties that could form Britain's next government held hours of closed-door talks Sunday without reaching a power-sharing deal, and there are fears that the political uncertainty could stoke market jitters when trading reopens Monday. Conservatives and Liberal Democrats have a "mountain to climb" on issues including electoral reform, a senior member of the Liberal Democrats said. The Liberal Democrats want Britain to shed a system that gave them just 9 percent of the seats in Parliament after they won 23 percent of the popular vote, but if Conservatives give in it could leave them at the smaller party's mercy in future elections. The divide could offer an opening for Prime Minister Gordon Brown's Labour Party to stay in power through a coalition with the Liberal Democrats and some smaller parties.

### US praises Israelis, Palestinians for peace talks

**JERUSALEM (AP)**—The U.S. praised Israelis and Palestinians for pledging modest steps to create a positive atmosphere for their first peace contacts in more than a year, after the initial round of indirect talks ended Sunday. President Barack Obama's Mideast envoy, George Mitchell, left for home Sunday after multiple meetings with Israeli and Palestinian leaders over the course of a week to get the indirect talks under way. Resumption of the peace talks amounts to the first achievement here for the Obama administration. In Washington, State Department spokesman Philip Crowley said the talks were "serious and wide-ranging," and both sides offered initial steps to help things along: Israel committed to no building in a housing project in disputed east Jerusalem and the Palestinians said they would work against incitement.

### Health official: No sign of Haiti diphtheria spike

**PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)**—A 15-year-old boy has died of diphtheria in Haiti, but there is no evidence the bacterial disease is spreading in the earthquake-ravaged country, U.N. health officials said Sunday. The boy, a survivor of the Jan. 12 earthquake, died last week despite receiving antitoxin treatments, said Anshu Banerjee, an official with the World Health Organization. The case sparked fears of an outbreak after CNN reported the death during an interview with actor Sean Penn, who is helping manage a tarp-and-tent camp in the capital, Port-au-Prince. A caption accompanying a story on CNN's website said: "Diphtheria epidemic threatens Haiti."

**GENEVA (AP)**—Airlines canceled hundreds of flights across Europe and added hours to trans-Atlantic journeys Sunday as planes were diverted around a large plume of ash spewed by an Icelandic volcano and stretching from Greenland to Portugal.

So far, the weekend cancellations have been a fraction of the flights nixed two weeks ago when jittery European air traffic authorities closed down much of the continent's airspace for fear the volcano's abrasive ash could harm jet engines. But the possibility loomed of continuing eruption, and rising costs to airlines from ongoing disruption.

The bulk of the cloud, measuring 2,100 miles long and 1,400 miles wide (3,400 kilometers by 2,200 kilometers), stretched over the North Atlantic, according to the Irish Aviation Authority. It ordered Ireland's five westernmost airports to close Sunday afternoon but allowed the country's three biggest airports in Dublin, Shannon and Cork to stay open.

Airlines diverted their trans-Atlantic traffic north and south of the cloud, causing congestion as planes tried to squeeze through remaining routes. Some connections were canceled entirely because of an offshoot of the main cloud that was snaking its way from Portugal through Spain, southern France and northern Italy, then up to Germany, the Czech Republic and Austria.

Eurocontrol, the Brussels-based agency that coordinates air traffic control centers throughout the continent, warned airlines to plan on taking on more fuel for the longer flight around the North Atlantic no-fly zone.

It said there would be approximately 24,500 flights within the European area Sunday, about 500 below average for this time of year. It said the ash cloud

Partidas				Departures		
Voo Flight	Destino Destination	Via Via	Balcão Check-In	Porta Gate	Observações Remarks	
LH 4555	FRANKFURT		1 - 3	33	NOVAS INFO	
TP 6685	FRANKFURT		1 - 3	33	NOVAS INFO	
TP 454	PARIS		16-20	30	NOVAS INFO	
EZY3772	PARIS		47-48		CANCELADO	
TP 938					CANCELADO	
TP 938	GENEVE		16-20	31	CANCELADO	
LX 4589	GENEVE		16-20	31	CANCELADO	
TP 812	MILAN		16-20		CANCELADO	
3 1744	MILAN		16-20		CANCELADO	
R 9135	PARIS - BEA		58-59		CANCELADO	
P 916	ZURICH		16-20		CANCELADO	
X 4599	ZURICH		16-20		CANCELADO	
P 1957	LISBOA		16-20	6	NOVAS INFO	
S 5085	LISBOA		16-20	6	NOVAS INFO	
P 183	R. JANEIRO		41-45	11	NOVAS INFO	
O 8311	R. JANEIRO		41-45	11	NOVAS INFO	
P 334	LONDON GATH		16-20		CANCELADO	
R 9374	BARCELONA G		58-59		CANCELADO	

A departure board displays cancelled flights at the Sa Carneiro Airport in Porto, Portugal, Sunday, May 9, 2010.

hovering over the continent was expected to dissipate and that most of the closed airports were likely to reopen later Sunday.

Daniel Gerstgrasser, a meteorologist with Switzerland's national weather agency, said rain would help wash out the cloud by Monday morning and no further ash drifts were expected to reach the continent in the coming 24 hours.

Longer-term forecasts were less clear. Meteorologists say that until Eyjafjallajökull (pronounced ay-yah-FYAH-lah-yer-kuhl), the volcano in southern Iceland, stops erupting, the future course of Europe's ash crisis will depend heavily on the prevailing winds. The eruption of the glacier-capped volcano has shown no signs of stopping since it began belching ash April 13. It last erupted from 1821 to 1823.

Irish airline Aer Lingus apologized to its customers for a string of flight cancellations since Tuesday, when the ash threat returned to Irish air space after a two-week break. Its trans-Atlantic services to Boston and New York were operating Sunday subject to delays.

United Airlines canceled four flights from Rome, Geneva and Zurich to Chicago and Washington. Other trans-Atlantic flights were operating with an average delay of two hours, said spokeswoman Megan McCarthy.

European carriers including British Airways, Germany's Lufthansa and Air France reported delays but no cancellations on trans-Atlantic flights.

Budget airline easyJet stopped all connections to and from its hub in Geneva while Portuguese airports reported 223 cancellations at Porto and Lisbon. Like many airlines, easyJet was using the short messaging platform Twitter to update passengers on the latest developments.

## Desperate parents abandon children in Haiti

**PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)**—Weeks after the 1-year-old was found in a dumpster, his father showed up.

The baby wriggled in his cot, smiled and held up his arms. When the father didn't touch him, the baby started to cry and kick his legs.

The man left moments after he arrived, never to be seen again, according to a report written by a social worker at the Saint Catherine Hospital in the Cite Soleil slum, where the child was taken.

The catastrophic earthquake that left at least 1.3 million of Haiti's 9 million people homeless was the final push over the edge for families that could barely afford to feed their children before. Now stuck in leaky tents with dwindling aid handouts, Haitian families are abandoning their children in the hope that rescue organizations will offer them a better life, aid workers say.

A 4-day-old baby girl was left in a cardboard box outside a hospital. Toddlers are being found alone in hospital waiting rooms. Outside a private clinic, volunteers discovered a 3-year-old holding a bag of carefully folded underwear. A note pinned to his shirt asked those who found him to look after him.

Even before the magnitude-7 quake, poor parents left children at orphanages where they would at least receive one meal a day. Now the number of abandoned children has skyrocketed, said 37-year-old Tamara Palinka, who helped coordinate logistics at the University of Miami-run field hospital on the grounds of the airport.

"I personally talked a lot of mothers out of giving up their children," said Palinka, who cordoned off a space inside the field

hospital's pediatric tent for abandoned children, including another toddler found crawling on a garbage heap.

Orphanage workers say their facilities are swelling with children who are not orphans.

At Mother Teresa's orphanage behind a tall wall covered in concertina wire, nuns in white saris hover over the cribs of children whose arms are attached to drips. They don't take in orphans, only malnourished children who will be returned to their families after they put on weight. They require the mothers to stay on the grounds because otherwise they might not come back.

"We don't let them leave," said Sister Genova, a diminutive woman who weaves between the cribs, reaching out to stroke the head of a twig-like child with bright orange hair, a sign of malnutrition.

## German state vote curbs Merkel's power

**BERLIN (AP)**—Voters in Germany's most populous state dealt Chancellor Angela Merkel a painful setback Sunday, erasing her government's majority in the upper house of parliament and curbing its power after a stumbling start and criticism over the Greek debt crisis.

Merkel's center-right alliance was voted out of power in a state election

in North Rhine-Westphalia, a region of some 18 million people that includes Cologne and the industrial Ruhr area. It was the first electoral test since she started her second term in October.

"This is of course a warning shot for the governing parties, and the people should know that it has been heard," said Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle, the vice chancellor and leader

of the Free Democrats, Merkel's junior coalition partner. "We must make an effort to win back lost trust."

Merkel's conservative Christian Democrats won 34.6 percent of Sunday's vote, 10 points down on five years ago and their worst showing in the state since World War II, and the Free Democrats 6.7 percent, final results showed.

## Death toll in Russian mine blasts hits 30

**MEZHDURECHENSK, Russia (AP)**—The death toll from two explosions in Russia's largest underground coal mine rose to 30 on Monday, with about 60 people still trapped, the government official heading the rescue operation said.

Emergency Minister Sergei Shoigu announced the news at a briefing after rescue workers were able to go down into parts of the Siberian mine hit by two blasts over the weekend.

High levels of methane gas have raised fears of further explosions and hindered rescue efforts. Shoigu said a further danger is now posed by rising water levels in the deep mine, and rescuers have a maximum of 48 hours to reach 13 people in two locations that are being flooded.

Most of the 18 dead found early Monday were rescue workers who had entered the mine after the first blast, Shoigu said. The second more powerful blast destroyed the main air shaft and a five-story building over the mine.



## Overdrive

## Honda Element's dog-friendly package will please loyal fans

By STEVEN COLE SMITH  
THE ORLANDO SENTINEL

If the “Dog Friendly” badges don’t tip you off, the thick rubber floor mats with a dog bone pattern should: This 2010 Honda Element is equipped with a special optional package that should appeal to dogs — and, presumably, their owners.

It’s a nice feature and a good way for Honda to generate a little buzz for the Element, which received a mild redesign for 2009, but still looks and feels sort of dated. That redesign included a new nose and new rear, and the front fenders are now made from metal instead of composite material.

The Element remains true to its original mission, though—it’s a boxy, slightly quirky little sport-ute designed to appeal to “active lifestyle” customers, who presumably like lots of room, don’t care much about styling and spend a lot of time rolling around in the mud. Hence, the rubber mats and moisture-resistant seat upholstery.

Central to the Element’s quirkiness are rear side doors that open front to back, which can make for a big, wide opening, but can get pretty annoying when you try to close the front door before you close the rear door, which you can’t. These clamshell doors are an alter-



The Element remains true to its original mission—it’s a boxy, slightly quirky little sport-ute designed to appeal to “active lifestyle” customers.

### NUTS & BOLTS

#### 2010 HONDA ELEMENT EX:

- **Base price:** \$19,815
- **Price as tested:** \$27,295
- **EPA rating:** 19 miles per gallon city driving, 24 mpg highway.
- **Details:** Front-engine, all-wheel-drive SUV with a 2.4-liter, 166-horsepower four-cylinder engine and a five-speed automatic transmission.

native to minivan-like sliding doors, but I’m not a fan.

More valuable are the dozens of versatile configurations for the front and rear seats that adjust to carry people, property or both. It kind of gives the inside of the Element a delivery-van feel, but not as much as the industrial Ford Transit Connect. Helpful in the test car was the

very user-friendly navigation system, and the 270-watt sound system. Seats are spongy but comfortable. There’s a lot of headroom, good legroom.

The entry-level is the Element LX, and at the top of the line is the pseudo-sporty SC. Our test vehicle was the mid-level EX with a navigation system and all-wheel-drive, which listed for \$26,295. Add the aforementioned Dog Friendly package, which costs \$1,000, and the price is \$27,295.

Dog-wise, this is what you get for your grand: “Dog Friendly” emblems, rear kennel and organizer, pet bed, a ramp, dog-pattern seat covers, Dog Bone floor mats, spill-resistant water bowl, electric ventilator fan, a tote bag, a leash and collar, a “Paw Print”

dog tag, and a (ahem) doggie-doo-bag dispenser.

On the road, dog package or not, the Element has a stiff ride, and under acceleration, there’s a lot of road noise and more vibration than we’ve come to expect from a Honda engine. The only one offered is a 2.4-liter, 166-horsepower four-cylinder, which has been around a little too long, matched to a five-speed automatic transmission.

The test Element had all-wheel-drive, which adds \$1,250. That still doesn’t make the low-slung Element a genuine off-roader, but adds to the beach-buggy image.

Personally, it’s not my favorite Honda, but the Element has found a small but dedicated group of loyal fans. And that doesn’t even count dogs.

## Old cars may burn oil, but white smoke is a concern

By PAUL BRAND  
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

**QUESTION:** I have a pair of ‘99 Cadillac DeVilles with about 166,000 miles on them that go through oil like crazy. I have to add oil twice a week. One of the cars smells like burning oil, and the other pushes whitish-gray smoky stuff out of the exhaust when I start it up that finally goes away after a few minutes. Is any of this normal? What should I do?

**ANSWER:** Higher-than-normal oil consumption from wear and tear isn’t unusual for these 4.8-liter V6 engines with more than 150,000 miles. The real question: Does this reduce the serviceability or reliability of the vehicles? If not, it’s probably not worth the cost of repairing them.

But it is worth trying to de-carbonize the combustion chambers to remove deposits that may be causing the piston rings to stick and not properly seal the combustion chambers. My Alldata automotive database pulled up GM service bulletin 02-06-01-009C dated October 2003 that outlines a professional procedure that introduces a special product into the cylinders to remove carbon deposits, along with tips for cleaning and decarbonizing the throttle body, positive crankcase ventilation system, idle air control and exhaust gas recirculation system.

You could also try a do-it-yourself version of this by introducing a decarbonizing product such as SeaFoam Motor Tune-Up through the induction system with the engine running to soften and melt away carbon deposits, then clean the other components with an aerosol carb/brake cleaner.

The whitish-gray smoke is a bit more of a concern. It may be raw fuel that has collected in the combustion chambers from a leaky injector or fuel pressure regulator. But it could also be vaporized coolant that collected in the cylinders from a head gasket or intake manifold gasket leak, which would be a more serious issue.

I’d be inclined to try the DIY cleaning process first.

■ ■ ■ ■

**Q:** I have a 2008 Buick LaCrosse with 19,000 miles. Since Day One, the car has used about quart of oil every 2,000 miles. The dealer says a quart of oil every 2,000 miles is acceptable. Is that true?

**A:** Yes, but consuming a quart of oil per 2,000 miles is the upper end of “normal” oil consumption. Think of it this way: If each cylinder burned one drop of oil per combustion stroke, the engine would burn a quart of oil roughly every four miles.

GM addressed oil consumption on a number of their 2005-2008 3.8-liter V6 engines in service bulletin 05-06-01-035A, dated October 2007. According to the bulletin, oil consumption in excess of one quart per 2,000 miles may be caused by the retaining rings not holding the exhaust valve seal in place. Replacement valve seals, if necessary, would be a warranty repair.

■ ■ ■ ■

**Q:** When I start my 2008 Malibu with 12,000 miles on it, it sometimes makes a “clattering” sound for a couple of seconds. The dealer was unable to duplicate this sound after many tries. There is also a sour smell when you first turn on the air conditioning. Any ideas?

**A:** How often do you change engine oil? Typically, start-up clatter is caused by sludge delaying oil pressure reaching the hydraulic valve lifters. Fortunately, this isn’t usually harmful, just annoying—even though you wouldn’t expect this on a low-mileage engine.

The “sour” smell from the air conditioning is usually caused by mold and mildew in the evaporator housing. Auto parts stores sell aerosol deodorizers that can be sprayed down the fresh air vents at the base of the windshield while the air conditioning is running with the windows closed.

*Paul Brand, author of How to Repair Your Car, is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at: Star Tribune, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488 or via e-mail at paulbrand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. It isn’t always possible to send a personal reply.*

## UNDER THE HOOD

# Diagnosing a brake-light problem

By BRAD BERGHOLDT  
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**Question:** I have driven my Camry for 16 years and never even thought about the brake fluid other than keeping the cylinder full. About a month ago my brake warning light popped on and I don’t know what caused that to happen. Today my husband siphoned half of the old brake fluid out (and it was brown) and replaced it with new fluid. The light remained on. He removed the sensor that is in the master cylinder and that made the light go out. Could it be that the sensor is bad or could I still have a brake problem? Your opinion would be greatly appreciated.

**ANSWER:** It sounds like the brake fluid level switch in your Camry initially closed, illuminating the red brake warning lamp, due to low fluid level, and is persisting, due to a sticking/binding float (part of the switch—it’s how the switch detects fluid level). The only

other reasons for this lamp to glow would be a deployed parking brake, a flaky parking brake switch, or a shorted-to-ground wire leading to either switch. Since the lamp stopped glowing after your husband disconnected it, the fluid level switch is clearly the culprit.

Monitoring brake fluid level serves an additional purpose beyond indicating it’s time to top off the fluid reservoir with fluid. In the unlikely even the Camry should incur a brake system hydraulic failure, perhaps due to a failed brake caliper or ruptured hose, the resulting loss of fluid would be seen by the fluid level switch, illuminating the warning lamp. Some other vehicles employ a pressure switch instead of the fluid level switch, which detects an imbalance between the vehicle’s dual braking systems, indicating a serious hydraulic fault (all cars and trucks built during the past 4 decades have dual systems). With either system, in the event of a hydraulic failure, one would be alarmed to find a very low brake pedal and increased stopping effort, along with the red lamp—but the ve-

hicle could still be stopped.

It’s perfectly normal for the fluid level in the brake master cylinder reservoir to drop—perhaps to 1/2 of capacity, as the vehicle’s disc brake pads wear. As the pads become thinner, the brake caliper pistons remain somewhat extended, borrowing fluid from the reservoir. Should the reservoir be topped off just prior to a brake job, some of the fluid will need to be siphoned off, or a messy overflow will occur when the caliper pistons are pushed back to the new-thick pad position. For safety’s sake, I can’t recommend leaving the fluid level switch disconnected. If fiddling with the switch, perhaps rinsing it with fresh brake fluid—while inverted, doesn’t restore it to correct operation, a replacement is needed.

■ ■ ■ ■

**Q:** I recently bought a 2010 Ford Ranger Sport and returned it two days later because of a glowing battery indicator. They tested it and found a draw initially and replaced the battery saying it failed. It has run OK for a

week but on the indicator panel when starting, the battery light does not seem as bright as the others. However, after starting, all lights go off. Am I worrying for nothing or does it indicate something more?

**A:** I wouldn’t be concerned about the specific brightness of the battery lamp while cranking the engine. If the truck did have a parasitic drain (battery discharge while at rest), let’s hope that was successfully corrected, or the replacement battery may suffer a similar fate. Modern vehicles, with their complex but very efficient network systems can often require up to 1/2 hour after shut-off for all modules to go to sleep, making diagnosis tricky. Hat’s off to the skilled technicians that fix them right! It isn’t rocket science, but it’s close.

*Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him e-mail at under-the-hood@earthlink.net; he cannot make personal replies.*



## Life & Style

# The heart of all that 'Glee'

He acts, he sings, he dances, he's even got fabulous hair. Meet Matthew Morrison, the breakout star of the Fox harmonic convergence.

By **CHRISTOPHER SMITH**  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

In early March, the Paley Center held its annual festival saluting notable new TV shows, showcasing the likes of "Modern Family" and "Men of a Certain Age." The evenings of PaleyFest have a comfortable charm—an episode screening, cast appearances and polite questions from an attentive audience.

Then there was March 13, and the salute to "Glee." Lines formed early outside the Saban Theatre in Beverly Hills, and swelled hours before the doors opened, with fans—self-described Gleeeks—hanging out, many of them singing and dancing as they waited. The mood inside the packed, 1,900-seat auditorium—attendance was later announced as biggest in the festival's 27 years—was anxious, ebullient.

Things quieted during the showing of the first of nine new episodes, which begin airing Tuesday on Fox, but the lights came up, the cast was introduced one by one and enthusiasm grew. Finally, out bounded a smiling Matthew Morrison, "Glee's" bedrock character, glee club director Will Schuester, and the place blew apart.

Not much was required of Morrison as part of the sizable panel of costars and show runners. But every time his name was mentioned or a question was lobbed his way, the very fact that the chiseled 6-foot actor with the striking blue eyes was present would elicit an involuntary shriek from somewhere in the hall.

For those non-Gleeeks who don't know what the shouting is all about, "Glee" is an hourlong confection set in high school and played out against a background soundtrack of catchy cover tunes popping up about every 10 minutes. The show's rating successes in the fall—OK numbers overall, but a dynamic core in the key 18-34 demographic—earned it an early renewal for a second season. In January, it won a Golden Globe for best TV comedy or musical and come July, there is likelihood of a spate of Emmy nods.

At the core of it, shrieks and all, is Morrison. The 31-year-old actor, raised in Orange County, has a decade of Broadway and a Tony nomination under his belt, but it wasn't until "Glee" that he catapulted into the public eye as the show's decent-guy centerpiece, albeit one with a dreamboat-lookstwist. Schuester functions as den father to a group of



Jane Lynch, center left, as "Sue Sylvester" and Matthew Morrison as "Will Schuester" in a hallway at McKinley High are filmed during a network promo between filming scenes for the hit Fox series "Glee" at Paramount Studios in Los Angeles, California, March 31, 2010.

harmonic teens amped on high tones as well as hormones; he's also the object of dueling affections from a wily wife and winsome co-worker; and, perhaps the highlight of it all, is the victimized combatant in a death-match rivalry with the predatory cheerleading coach, played by the titanic Jane Lynch.

"Glee" costar Lea Michele—a breakout in her own right—appraises Morrison's role on the set to the gaggle of younger cast members as a "big brother type. He's not overbearing or parental, but someone who, when things get a little chaotic, will settle everyone else down with a 'hey guys, let's get on our game.'"

On the set, Morrison is nicknamed "Triple Threat," a non-ironic description of his formidable talents as singer (a stirring, high-range tenor), dancer (he got his first Broadway gig dancing in a line at 19) and actor, where his emotional accessibility and empathy for fellow characters manifests itself with a depth rare in television prime-time comedies.

Audiences, women in particular, respond to him.

"He grounds the show and brings an adult element for those of us outside high school," said Lindsay Hanks, 27, of Aliso Viejo, who was at the "Glee" tribute. "He seems like he's not in a negative light," chimed in her friend Leila Lotfi, 30, also of Aliso Viejo.

### All that attention

A current problem for Morrison, though one he cheerfully contends with, is the attention that has come from his starring turn

in a hot series. For an interview the day before the Oscars, he arrives at an outdoor café with a New York Mets baseball cap pulled down low, tamping out of sight his most attention-getting feature, the wavy brown hair that is subject matter in more than 3,000 online entries.

For all of Morrison's cursory dismissal of fame—"I'm not famous; the 'Octomom' is famous"—he falls under its sway occasionally. For instance, he is surprised to be suddenly not just recognizable to regular people he meets, but also to the even more famous people he can't believe he is meeting. In December, he performed at the annual Kennedy Center Honors in Washington, D.C., singing and dancing a spot-on version of "Springtime for Hitler" during the salute to Mel Brooks.

"After, there was a party, and suddenly, there's Robert De Niro," Morrison's eyes widen a bit, remembering the encounter with Brooks' fellow honoree. "He comes up and says," Morrison's voice ratchets down into a credible take on the De Niro growl, circa the 12th round in "Raging Bull," "'Hey, you da guy, you da guy that was funny. Ha, ha. Good, kid.'"

"And then Bruce Springsteen [another honoree] is in front of me, and he's like, apologetic: 'I don't mean to bother you, but would you come over and meet my kids?'"

Morrison's eyes are now big as saucers. "I mean, you're the Boss! You can ask me to do anything you want!"

Morrison pauses, reflecting on

the evening's encounters and his career: "I don't really believe in reincarnation, but I feel like I'm living my next life right now."

Morrison's first life began at Ft. Ord, near Monterey, Calif. His parents were Army nurses. Then his father, Tom, enrolled in USC to study midwifery. Jobs being more plentiful in Southern California, Matthew and his mother, Mary, joined Tom here when Matthew was about 10.

He caught the theater bug after spending a summer with relatives and performing in a kids' play called "The Herdmans Go to Camp." Subsequent youth theater experience followed; it led Morrison to the Orange County High School of the Arts (OCHSA), then in Los Alamitos.

"I learned more there than I ever have the rest of my life," said Morrison. "I went east to NYU, and that's an elite theater program, a great place for me, but sometimes I felt I was relearning stuff that I got in high school."

"Matt, oh wow, even then, the talent, you could see it! He had the voice, he looked good, he could act," said Ralph Opacic, OCHSA's passionate founder and leader, who adds, "He was also class president his senior year."

At this juncture, introducing Brian Barham as a counterweight might be useful. One of Morrison's closest friends, Barham, who is not in the arts, has been a bud stretching back to high school and then through the years when both were in New York.

"Look, Matt was class president, good looking, up-and-coming actor, all that. But he was not exactly a saint, OK?" There's a tell-all chuckle as he proceeds to recount pranks of license plate thefts, "knucklehead competitions" that in one instance landed loser Morrison in an East Village tattoo parlor (for the record, the actor has four tats) and avid pursuit of the opposite sex on both coasts.

"To me, this shows the different parts of Matt's character," said Barham, transitioning from pal to psychologist. "He's an extroverted introvert, but if you want to go have fun, maybe get into a little trouble, he's there without a second thought. It would be wrong to see the guy as a wimp."

Late on a Saturday afternoon in March, at a home recording studio in Silver Lake, after hitting six letter-perfect readings, Morrison bungles the first passage of Amos Lee's plaintive ballad "Arms of a Woman." A brief stream of invective bursts forth from behind the studio glass, then a sigh, then Morrison's voice resumes its normal aplomb, "Let me try it again."

The pursuit of "meaningful" is key to understanding Morrison today. He's well aware that the Hollywood road to success is littered with breakout TV stars who never could quite leave their small screen personas behind. The savvy Morrison will pursue a project only if he can see his own reflection and

feel good about the performer looking back at him.

"Personally, the important thing about 'Glee' hitting is that now I can say, 'No,' " he says. "Before, I had to at least look at every project that was out there, but now I can be selective. And I intend to be."

Among his Broadway successes, there were missteps: a soap opera for a couple months, a stint in a pre-fab boy band that brings a grimace to his face. But with earnings from the show, he has commissioned a musical on the short life, meteoric career and early death of James Dean. Less firm, there have also been conversations with "High School Musical" czar Kenny Ortega about a biopic of Hollywood's original "Triple Threat," Gene Kelly.

Even though he has a new house in the Hollywood Hills to pay for, commercials don't fit into this picture at present. In fact, in a playful mood, he cynically responded to the concept of a hypothetical commercial to capitalize on his hair—"No cheap product, no way...wait, wait, that's a biiiiiiig check!" But his focus quickly returned to work of substance and significance versus short-term payouts.

"Here's the thing," Morrison says, leaning forward in his chair during the lunch interview. His eyes narrow with a focused, almost chilly look of intensity, no more nice Will Schuester on display. "I get it that 'hot' fades. But I intend to be around for awhile."

### From our Hearts to Yours

*Our hearts are humbled and honored with the outpouring support, kindness, words of wisdom and most especially the unconditional love extended to us by our many relatives and friends who came from near and far, stood by our side as we endure the pain and loss of our dearly beloved*



### Pedro Kani Teigita

*Your presence at the daily masses of intentions, nightly rosaries, and most especially this day deeply touched our hearts and assures us of how much our dearly beloved is loved. Our BELOVED is now at rest with our Creator, watching and smiling down on each one of us as we go about our lives, but as each day beginning, it is our hope that the spirit and fond memories of our Beloved will forever be instilled in our hearts long to be forgotten.*

*Your kindness and love will forever be treasured as we keep them close to our hearts and we ask Almighty God to shower us all with his grace and blessings as we move on with our lives.*

*Thank You, Olomwaay, and Dangkulo na Si Yu'us Ma'ase.*

**The Family**



# 'Iron Man 2' blasts past original with \$133.6M

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Tony Stark piloted to the top of the box office but not the record books.

"Iron Man 2," the sequel starring Robert Downey Jr. as Marvel's gadget-happy billionaire superhero, earned \$133.6 million domestically on its opening weekend, according to distributor Paramount Pictures' estimates Sunday. The opening rocketed past the original \$98.6 million debut in 2008 and landed the record as the fifth-biggest opening weekend.

"We're thrilled with the combination of the way it's playing across the board," said Don Harris, Paramount's vice president of distribution. "It's playing as a fanboy movie, but it's also playing as family movie, too. I even know a bunch of people who are planning to take their mothers to see 'Iron Man

1. "Iron Man 2," \$133.6 million.
2. "A Nightmare on Elm Street," \$9.1 million.
3. "How to Train Your Dragon," \$6.7 million.
4. "Date Night," \$5.3 million.
5. "The Back-up Plan," \$4.3 million.
6. "Furry Vengeance," \$4 million.
7. "Clash of the Titans," \$2.3 million.
8. "Death at a Funeral," \$2.1 million.
9. "The Losers," \$1.8 million.
10. "Babies," \$1.5 million.

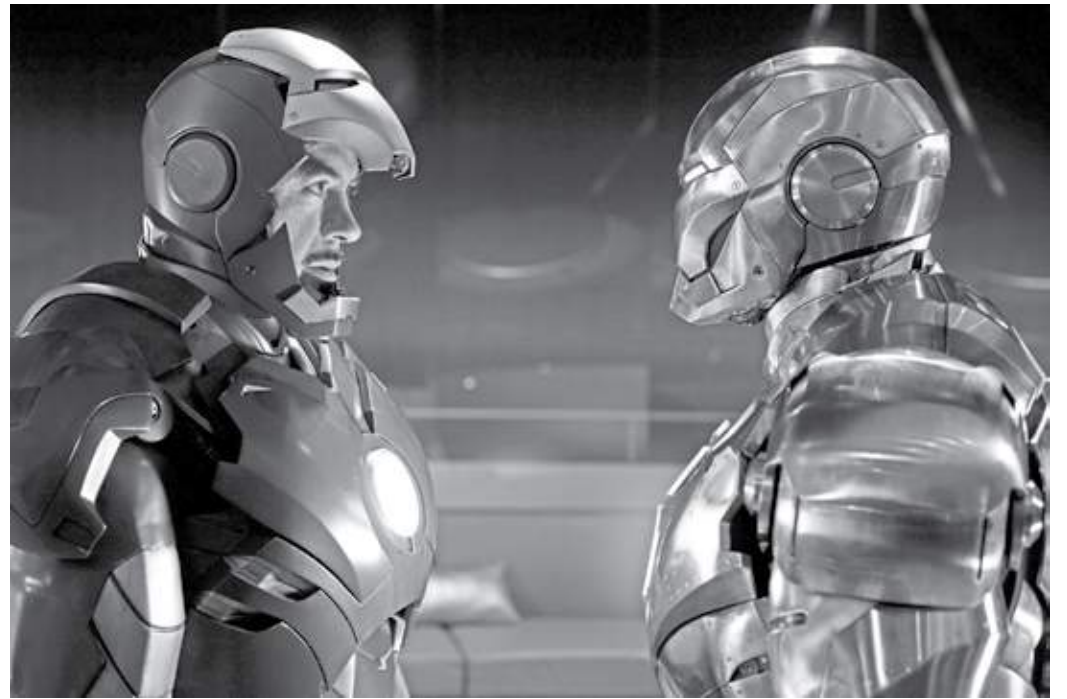
2' on Mother's Day, which really made me chuckle."

"Iron Man 2" has taken in \$194 million overseas since it debuted in many international markets last week, bringing its worldwide total to over \$327 million. While Hollywood blockbusters typically open around the same date in most countries, some get an overseas jump of a week or more on their U.S. debuts. The big-

gest opening came from China with \$7.3 million.

"It's a perfect kickoff to the summer of 2010," said Paul Dergarabedian, box office analyst for Hollywood.com. "It literally sets the tone for the entire summer movie season. To have the fifth biggest opening week of all time certainly sends a message that this summer season is going to make its mark. Audiences really do get caught up in that."

Despite the triumph over its predecessor, "Iron Man 2" didn't best the \$158.4 million bow of "The Dark Knight" in 2008 or the \$151.1 million debut of "Spider-Man 3" in 2007. It also didn't surpass last year's \$142.8 million dawn of "The Twilight Saga: New Moon" or the \$135.6 million course charted by "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest" in 2006.



AP  
In this film publicity image released by Marvel Entertainment, Robert Downey Jr. portrays billionaire industrialist Tony Stark, aka Iron Man, in a scene from "Iron Man 2." The film will be shown in cinemas across Germany Thursday, May 6, 2010 onwards.

The previous weekend's No. 1 movie, the Warner Bros. remake of "A Nightmare on Elm Street," fell to No. 2 with \$9.1 million, clawing to a total of \$48.5 mil-

lion. DreamWorks Animation's "How to Train Your Dragon" remained at No. 3 with \$6.7 million, bringing its seven-week total to \$201 million.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com; final figures will be released Monday.

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**NOW SHOWING**



### Iron Man 2

Friday	4:15	7:15	10:00
Saturday	1:20	4:15	7:15
Sunday	1:20	4:15	7:15
Mon thru Thurs	4:15	7:15	

**Robert Downey, Jr., Gwyneth Paltrow**  
 Action • Rated PG 13

### Synopsis

Paramount Pictures and Marvel Entertainment present the highly anticipated sequel to the blockbuster film based on the legendary Marvel Super Hero "Iron Man," reuniting director Jon Favreau and Oscar® nominee Robert Downey Jr. In "Iron Man 2," the world is aware that billionaire inventor Tony Stark (Robert Downey Jr.) is the armored Super Hero Iron Man. Under pressure from the government, the press and the public to share his technology with the military, Tony is unwilling to divulge the secrets behind the Iron Man armor because he fears the information will slip into the wrong hands.



### Furry Vengeance

Friday	4:30	7:25	9:35
Saturday	1:10	4:30	7:25
Sunday	1:10	4:30	7:25
Mon thru Thurs	4:30	7:25	

**Brendan Frazer, Brooke Shields**  
 Comedy, Children's/Family • Rated PG

### Synopsis

A real estate mogul (Brendan Fraser) goes head-to-head with a group of furry critters looking to protect their forest from development in this Summit Entertainment/Participant Media co-production. The family-oriented comedy was written by Mr. Woodcock's Michael Carnes and Josh Gilbert.



### A Nightmare on Elm Street

Friday	4:10	7:30	9:50
Saturday	1:15	4:10	7:30
Sunday	1:15	4:10	7:30
Mon thru Thurs	4:10	7:30	

**Jackie Earle Haley, Kyle Gallner**  
 Horror • Rated R

### Synopsis

Platinum Dunes revives the Nightmare on Elm Street franchise with this reworking of slasher film legend Freddy Krueger, a deceased child killer who torments the dreams of the teenagers of Springwood, OH. Jackie Earle Haley picks up the killer's mantle from series veteran Robert Englund with the reboot from music-video director Samuel Bayer.



### The Back-up Plan

Friday	4:00	7:00	9:30
Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00
Mon thru Thurs	4:00	7:00	

**Jennifer Lopez, Alex O'Loughlin**  
 Romance, Comedy • Rated PG 13



### The Losers

Friday	4:05	7:10	9:55
Saturday	1:30	4:05	7:10
Sunday	1:30	4:05	7:10
Mon thru Thurs	4:05	7:10	

**Zoe Saldana, Chris Evans**  
 Action • Rated PG 13



### The Last Song

Friday	4:20	7:05	9:40
Saturday	1:05	4:20	7:05
Sunday	1:05	4:20	7:05
Mon thru Thurs	4:20	7:05	

**Miley Cyrus, Liam Hemsworth**  
 Drama • Rated PG



### Clash Of the Titans

Friday	4:25	7:20	9:45
Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:20
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:20
Mon thru Thurs	4:25	7:20	

**Sam Worthington, Liam Neeson**  
 Fantasy • Rated PG 13

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## Art official: Painting in storage may be Raphael's

ROME (AP)—A finely painted portrait of a demurely looking woman nestled in an exceptionally ornate frame that was kept in an Italian ducal palace storeroom appears to be a Raphael original and not a copy as long thought, an art official in central Italy said Friday.

However, experts on the Renaissance giant quickly cautioned that art historians would have to closely study it before any conclusions can be made.

Mario Scalini, state superintendent for art in Modena and nearby towns, said he was doing an inventory of about 20,000 paintings in storerooms after he was named to the post a few years ago when he was struck by an unusually fancy, gilded 17th century frame in the palace in Sassuolo, near Modena.

It surrounded a portrait of a lady, hair braided, head tilted to one side and eyes demurely looking downward, as if the portrait-sitter wanted to avoid the gaze of the artist.

The work was long considered to be a copy of the head of one of the subjects in the much larger "Madonna della Perla" (Madonna of the Pearl) in Madrid's Prado museum, Scalini said.

The Prado work is considered to have been painted by Giulio Romano from a design of Raphael not long before he died 1520.

But Scalini said in a telephone interview that he wondered why a copy would be given such an elaborate frame. He said a hunch that it might be a Raphael was heightened when he found centuries-old inventory notations indicating the collection contained a woman's portrait by Raphael.

The documentation contained no indication the Raphael work might have been later sold or otherwise transferred, he said. "It had obviously been forgotten" and sat in the storeroom for decades, Scalini said.

The art official sent the 12 by 16 inch (30 centimeter by 40 centimeter) work to a laboratory in Florence, where one of the experts who ran scientific tests on the painting, Anna Pelagotti, said infrared testing revealed three layers underneath, including a preparatory design.

"It was a beautiful sensation, our mouths dropped open," said Pelagotti, describing the reaction she and her fellow experts had when they saw the sketch. "It looked more Raphael" than one could imagine, Pelagotti marveled, adding, "you could see his hand" in the finely detailed sketch.

Scalini said he hopes during a visit to Madrid later this month on other business that he can persuade the Prado to lend "Madonna della Perla," so art historians can study the two works side by side to help conclude if the long languishing painting is really Raphael's.

The Vatican Museums are home to one of the world's finest collections of Raphael paintings, and the Museums' director of painting restoration, Maurizio De Luca, who worked on the Raphael Stanzas



AP  
In this photo provided by researcher Lisa Venerosi Pesciolini in Florence, Saturday, May 8, 2010 a portrait of woman in an ornate frame.

frescoes, stressed that such lab tests cannot attribute with certainty who painted the portrait.

"They can't say it's Raphael's. That will come" only after study by art critics and historians who will decide if it was painted by the artist or perhaps one of his pupils, De Luca said by phone.

At Scalini's request, no "invasive" testing, such as analyzing bits of paint were done, to avoid damaging the painting, Pelagotti said.

But De Luca stressed that while chemical or other scientific analysis can determine if the material came from a certain time period, "you always need face-to-face examination" by art scholars to reach on judgment on the artist's identity.



# 'The Amazing Race' ends with San Francisco finale

## Singer Lena Horne, who broke racial barriers, dies

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Lena Horne, who broke racial barriers as a Hollywood and Broadway star and was famous for her velvety rendition of "Stormy Weather," has died at age 92.

Hospital spokeswoman Gloria Chin says Horne died Sunday at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital.

In the 1940s, Horne was one of the first black performers hired to sing with a major white band and among a handful with a Hollywood contract.

In 1943, she won the role of Selina Rogers in the all-black movie musical "Stormy Weather." Her rendition of the title song became a major hit.

She won a special Tony Award for her 1981 one-woman Broadway show, "Lena Horne: The Lady and Her Music."



**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Daniel and Jordan Pious sneaked into first place to win "The Amazing Race."

The distinctively different siblings from Barrington, R.I., crossed the finish line first in San Francisco to take home the CBS reality series' \$1 million grand prize. The brothers overcame cowboys Jet and Cord McCoy from Tupelo, Okla.; and dating models Caite Upton from Lexington, S.C., and Brent Horne from Columbia, S.C.

During the final leg, the teams were tasked with ascending up the Coit Tower, navigating a virtual maze at visual effects company Industrial Light and Magic, lugging a giant trunk through the streets of San Francisco and assembling a puzzle of the previously eliminated teams from the around-the-world race's 16th season.

In this publicity image released by CBS, contestant Daniel Pious climbs a rope in order to retrieve a Road Block in order to receive their next clue, on "The Amazing Race 16," airing Sunday, May 9, 2010 at 8:00 p.m. EST on CBS. AP

# Don't trust extradition filing, Polanski argues

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Roman Polanski's attorneys argued in court filings Friday that the Swiss government should not automatically assume an extradition request by Los Angeles prosecutors is accurate.

The statement is in response to a comment by a Swiss justice official, who told The Associated Press last month that officials there assume facts in an extradition request are correct. The official said the justice ministry was not interested in the transcripts of testimony offered in secret earlier this year by the

former prosecutor who handled Polanski's case.

Polanski's attorneys contend the transcripts will show the extradition papers contain information prosecutors know is "false and materially incomplete."

The filing also argues that prosecutors want the Swiss to only consider what's included in official court records and ignore other evidence that proves misconduct in the case.

Los Angeles County Dis-

trict Attorney's spokeswoman Sandi Gibbons says the office won't comment, but will argue their position during a hearing Monday.

The office has opposed the transcripts' release, stating in a filing Thursday that they should only become public once Polanski is returned to Los Angeles. They

say the Oscar-winning director's request should be rejected because he remains a fugitive.

Prosecutors want Polanski



Polanski

returned for sentencing on a 33-year-old unlawful sexual intercourse charge.

He pleaded guilty to having sex with a 13-year-old girl and fled in 1978 on the eve of sentencing after a judge said in private remarks that he intended to renege on a sentencing agreement.

The "Chinatown" and "Rosemary's Baby" director remains on house arrest at his chalet in the Swiss resort of Gstaad.

Swiss authorities have not said when they will rule on the extradition filing.

# Shriver, Gore honored by TV academy

**BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)**—The Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, the group behind the annual Emmy awards, paid tribute to what it called "television with a conscience" at its third-annual Television Academy Honors.

"I sort of call it, 'The night where we see that television chooses its power to do good vs. evil,'" said event host Dana Delany ("Desperate Housewives"). "We've seen a lot of crap on TV and this (event honors) shows that really enlighten

the world," she continued.

Among honorees at the Wednesday night ceremony: individual episodes of "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation," "Private Practice" and "Glee." Former U.S. vice president Al Gore accepted a statuette for his Current TV network's "Vanguard" series, which documented effects of prescription-drug abuse.

"The fact that this award has been established by the Academy speaks so well of the Academy," said Gore. "It really means so much to be here."

Gore also acknowledged both the journalistic and political work of California first lady Maria Shriver, who served as executive producer of the Academy-honored documentary "Grandpa, Do you Know Who I Am?" with Maria Shriver," which followed grandchildren forced to cope with a grandparent's Alzheimer's.

Shriver's father, R. "Sargent" Shriver, has long battled the disease. "I'm honored that I had that opportunity (to make the film)," said Shriver. "I originally did it out of selfish reasons, because I

wanted to understand what was happening to my own father."

Actress Holly Robinson Peete presented to Monica Lange, the producer-director of the documentary "Unlocking Autism." Robinson Peete's son Rodney Jr. is autistic. "You know, autism has been a journey for our family, and it was a big decision to talk about our son's journey publicly," Robinson Peete said. "What I like about 'Unlocking Autism' is that it sort of has a respectful way, from a scientific point of view, of talking to parents."

# Mix-and-match siblings echo their family's rich heritage

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**  
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**DEAR ABBY:** "No Laughing Matter" (Feb. 22) wrote about her mother-in-law making snide comments because there is so little resemblance between her son and her grandchild. It's a fact that not all offspring look like their parents.

My husband and I have seven biological children who are now young adults. We marvel at the breadth and depth of our collective gene pool.

I am a petite brown-eyed brunette, and my husband is tall and blond with hazel eyes. None of our kids look alike. One daughter inherited my brown eyes, but her hair is blond. Two kids have my dark hair, but one has blue eyes and the other has green eyes. One son is the spitting image of his dad, while another resembles my father as a child. Our "baby" girl is the tallest female and has a buxom figure she certainly did not inherit from me.

Another thing: Out of all nine of us, our second child is the only family member who cannot curl her tongue. The study of genetics is an amazing thing, especially when we find out what we think we know isn't necessarily so.

THEY'RE ALL OURS IN VIRGINIA

**DEAR ALL:** Thank you for your in"gene"ious response. Other readers felt "No Laughing Matter" should ignore her mother-in-law's comments and handle the matter with humor. Read on:

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** When my daughter was about 13, my "dear" mother-in-law said she didn't look like her son, also implying that I had been unfaithful. I looked her directly in the eye and replied, "Of course she doesn't look like your son. She resembles MY side of the family." She never commented again.

NOT UNFAITHFUL IN FLORIDA

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** The next time "No Laughing Matter's" mother-in-law remarks how one child bears no resemblance to Dad, she should say, "You know, genetics are fascinating. I've often thought how much this beautiful child resembles you."

MARC IN CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** My oldest brother and I look identical despite our 10-year age difference. Our middle brother, however, didn't look like either one of us. Our family jokingly referred to him as "the milkman's son" until he hit middle age. At that point in his life, he became the spitting image of our father. "No Laughing Matter" should not take her mother-in-law seriously.

KATHY IN SCOTTSDALE, ARIZ.

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** I bet if that mother-in-law looked through an old photo album she might notice that this grandchild has Grandpa's nose and eyes, and maybe Great-Uncle Charley's ears. My wife and I have five children. Three of them closely resemble us. The other two don't look like they belong to us—until you look at my wife's maternal cousins. Our daughter and one of her cousins could pass as twins.

LEROEY IN POULSBORO, WASH.

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** My mother was widowed at 35 with three young children. A few years later, "Pop" came into our lives and married "us." He always treated us like we were his biological kids and we knew we were loved. Pop was a mailman in our small town and my brother used to tag along with him on his route. Many people would comment that they "knew" immediately that this was his son, "He looks just like you!"

"No Laughing Matter" needs to move on. Life is too short to feel bad about thoughtless people and their silly comments.

ACK'S DAUGHTER IN UPSTATE NEW YORK

*Dear Abby* is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

## ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

**Rock star Sting says teachers should be paid more**  
**MEXICO CITY (AP)**—School teacher-turned-rock star Sting says teacher salaries must be raised to attract society's best minds into classrooms. Sting spoke to reporters Saturday in Mexico City before a \$550-a-ticket concert. The show is part of a fundraising "Learning for Life" tour that supports

education in developing countries. Sting, the former leader of the British rock band The Police, said: "One of the most important jobs in the planet is to teach children. Our entire future depends on children being educated."

## R&B star Usher honored at Detroit awards program

**DETROIT (AP)**—Usher Ray-

mond IV has found success in the entertainment industry as an R&B recording star and in business as part owner of the NBA's Cleveland Cavaliers. He also gets excited about working with young people. Usher was being honored Thursday in Detroit for his work as an entrepreneur and for the efforts of his youth mentoring New Look Foundation. He told The Associated Press, "Something

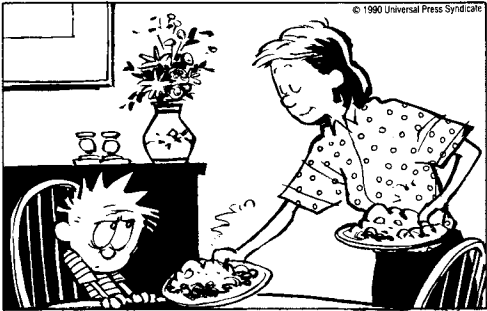
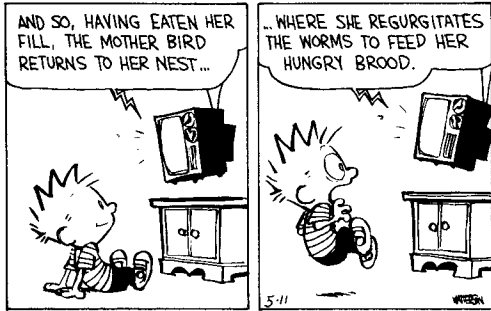
inside of me wanted to mentor youth, like myself. Kids who were maybe not as likely to succeed." The 31-year-old Usher has been named the Ford Freedom Award Scholar and was attending the 12th annual Ford Freedom Award program Thursday evening in Detroit. Ford Motor Co. and the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History launched the awards program in 1999.



Pastimes

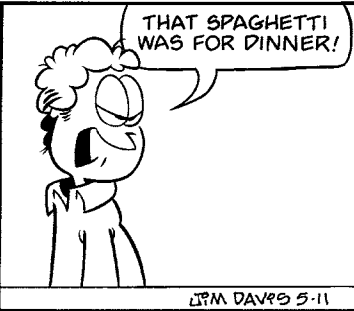
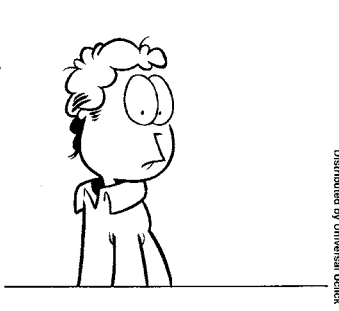
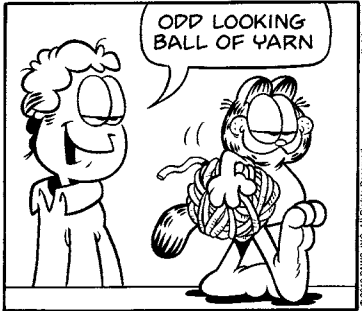
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



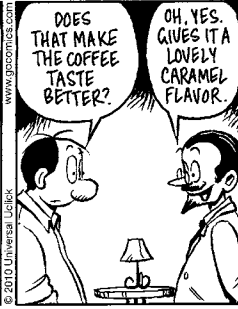
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Roe provider

5 Big fusses

9 Kennel squeal

12 Day fraction

13 Sur-rounded

14 Rhyming praise

15 Quotable catcher

17 Solidify

18 Three-piece piece

19 Leavening agent

21 Check recipient

24 Oil cartel

25 "Once — a time, ..."

26 Parts of brains

30 Possibly will

31 Turning point

32 Diane Sawyer's network

33 One making a vow

35 Norway's capital

36 Song for two

37 Assail

38 Ecru

40 Old pronoun

42 Hearty brew

43 Sailors' chant

48 Cudgel

49 Eternally

50 Street

51 Type measures

52 "— of Our Lives"

53 Odds' mates

4 Strongly motivated

5 Quite some time

6 Gossip

7 Bobby of hockey

8 "Don't go anywhere"

9 Where people meet for a stretch?

10 Mid-month date

11 Hide

16 Spelling contest

20 Slithery fish

21 Gasoline dispenser

22 On — with (equal to)

23 Plans with frequent gains and losses

24 Stench

26 Atomizer output

27 Previous night

28 Competent

29 Highlander

31 Inebriated

34 Oktober-fest

35 Body of work

37 Feathery neckwear

38 George Herman Ruth

39 Verve

40 Some other people

41 Not his

44 Eggs

45 A billion years

46 Possessed

47 "— bodkins!"

Solution time: 21 mins.

Yesterdays answer 5-11

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Holly Valance, 27; Katie Wagner, 46; Frances Fisher, 58; Eric Burdon, 69

**Happy Birthday:** There is plenty to gain through helping others, so don't wait for someone else to take the lead when your knowledge and expertise should be recognized and appreciated. Letting someone steal your thunder will lead to anger and resentment, not the advancement you want and need. Think of what you can accomplish and don't stop until you reach your destination. Your numbers are 2, 9, 16, 24, 28, 36, 40

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** The more involved you are in challenging social events or activities, the more knowledge and self-assurance you will pick up. Your greater understanding of what is going on around you will enable you to stand up to any pressure. Don't give in. \*\*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Your stubbornness will pay off if you are dealing with someone who is trying to take advantage of you. Your no-nonsense attitude will let everyone know that you mean business. \*\*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** There are people who need help and those who want help. Do your homework so you know exactly what everyone has to offer and what each requires in return. You can take a leadership position. \*\*\*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Don't meddle even if someone asks you for your opinion. As soon as you make suggestions, you will be blamed for interfering. An

emotional matter will escalate if you are pushy or refuse to hear the opinions of others. \*\*

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** You may have to compromise but, in the end, you will gain the upper hand. Not everyone will be thinking rationally. Your ability to make the most of what you've got will bring you victory. \*\*\*\*\*

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Keep a close watch on your finances. Trying to please someone may help you get ahead at work but, when it comes to your personal life, you'll meet with opposition and complaints. Use a gentle nudge. \*\*\*

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Mind your own business and stay out of trouble. A little gossip is all it will take to make someone you care about angry. A passionate approach to whatever you do will make an impression on someone you would like to get to know better. \*\*\*

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Get approval before you decide to move forward with one of your ideas. There will be people who aren't willing to take a chance. Explain exactly what it is you are doing in order to set someone at ease and get the go-ahead. \*\*\*

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** You must come up with some original ideas if you want to gain the support of someone you need to complete your plans. Problems at home will escalate if you don't address complaints being made about neglect or your irresponsibility. \*\*\*\*\*

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Make over-

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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due changes at home to lift spirits and eliminate the complaints of the past. Your concern to get things done right for the people you care most about will enhance your relationships and ease tension. \*\*

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Don't keep making the same mistake over and over again. Address problems quickly so you can move on. You have a responsibility to the people who care about you most. Love is apparent; honesty will make it happen. \*\*\*\*

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** The more adaptable you are, the more you will get in return. Share your thoughts and ideas and find ways to incorporate other people's suggestions into your plans. A good friendship will help you accomplish the most. \*\*\*

**Birthday Baby:** You are aggressive and will stop at nothing when it comes to getting your way. You have good ideas and strong beliefs. You are a thinker and a doer.

Eugenia's Web sites: [eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com) for confidential consultations, [myspace.com/eugenialast](http://myspace.com/eugenialast) for Eugenia's blog, [astroadvice.com](http://astroadvice.com) for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

		2	4			1		6	
5				6			8		3
6			8					5	
		4							2
					1				
8								7	
	8					2			1
9		2			8				6
	3		5			4	8		

Difficulty Level ★★

5/11

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

7	1	9	4	2	3	6	8	5
6	8	2	1	9	5	4	3	7
5	3	4	6	8	7	9	2	1
9	7	6	8	5	2	1	4	3
2	4	1	7	3	6	5	9	8
3	5	8	9	1	4	7	6	2
1	2	7	3	4	9	8	5	6
8	9	5	2	6	1	3	7	4
4	6	3	5	7	8	2	1	9

Difficulty Level ★

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

NEW ZEALAND LAMB

Solution: 7 letters

N	O	I	T	A	N	I	B	M	O	C	H	O	P	S
S	A	P	P	E	T	I	Z	E	R	Q	Y	U	F	S
S	E	S	L	A	E	D	A	N	I	R	A	M	R	S
E	L	L	E	E	G	N	I	W	A	H	T	O	I	H
L	T	D	B	R	N	N	I	M	U	C	V	R	E	O
E	R	I	A	A	U	T	O	K	C	A	N	S	D	U
N	A	N	R	R	T	T	I	S	L	I	C	E	S	L
O	D	N	B	O	S	E	S	F	B	M	A	L	I	D
B	I	E	E	U	V	E	G	A	U	I	T	S	S	E
T	T	R	C	N	G	A	A	E	P	L	A	R	N	R
S	I	W	U	D	N	R	F	S	V	B	E	R	O	T
A	O	I	E	O	O	E	A	L	O	C	M	A	I	A
U	N	N	M	M	A	L	E	V	I	N	S	C	N	S
C	A	E	A	S	T	G	Y	P	T	E	K	O	T	
E	L	I	T	A	S	R	E	V	S	U	N	D	A	Y

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5/11

Appetizer, Aroma, Barbecue, Basil, Boneless, Chops, Combination, Cumin, Customary, Dinner, Favorite, Feast, Flavors, Fried, Gravy, Lamb, Legs, Lemon, Marinade, Meat, Morsels, Onions, Pastures, Plentiful, Rack, Recipe, Roast, Round, Salt, Sauce, Seasoned, Shoulder, Slices, Snack, Sunday, Tasty, Thawing, Traditional, Vegetables, Versatile, Wine

**Yesterday's Answer: Spoonful**

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"I want to meet  
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"When I grow up, I want to  
become a police officer!"



"My wish is to  
go shopping!"



"My wish is to celebrate my  
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#### Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

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#### Classified Ads

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Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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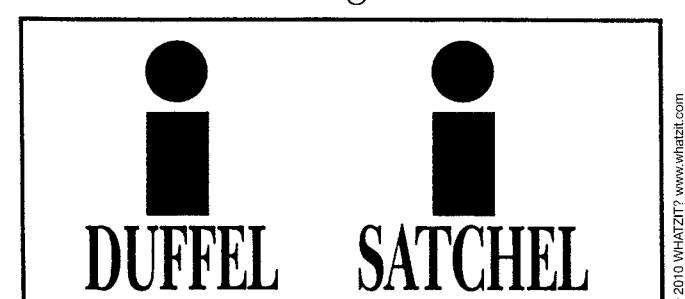
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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



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## Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities

### VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

#### Board of Directors

Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities

The Board of Directors of the Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities (Council) wishes to announce a board vacancy.

The Council is a non-profit, private corporation affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Council's mission is to "foster awareness, understanding and appreciation of the humanities through support of educational programs that relate the humanities to the indigenous cultures and to the intellectual needs and interests of the people of the Commonwealth."

The Council's board is comprised of thirteen volunteer members who serve three year terms. The Council strives to maintain a board that reflects a broad cross section of our CNMI community. The ideal candidate will have a strong desire to promote the Council's mission, programs, and activities. Board responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Attending regular Council meetings four times annually;
- Participating in working committee meetings;
- Evaluating Council programs and activities;
- Reviewing grant applications;
- Raising funds and recruiting community partners;
- Providing input from various community members, and
- Attending conferences, workshops and other meetings on behalf of the NMI Council for the Humanities.

Interested individuals are invited to submit their letters of interest and resumes to Tracy M. Guerrero, Chair, Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities at Post Office Box 506437 Saipan, MP 96950. They may also be delivered to the NMI Council for the Humanities office located in the Springs Plaza Building, Gualo Rai, Saipan. All letters of interest and resumes must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Monday, May 31, 2010. For additional information, please contact the Council's Executive Director, Scott Russell, at telephone 235-4785 or visit the Council's website at [www.nmihumanities.org](http://www.nmihumanities.org).

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# Suns sweep Spurs to reach West finals



**SAN ANTONIO (AP)**—The Phoenix Suns swept away seven years of bad playoff memories brought by the San Antonio Spurs.

Steve Nash scored 20 points and played with a right eye that was swollen shut as Phoenix swept San Antonio from the Western Conference semifinals with a 107-101 win Sunday night. Amare Stoudemire led the way with 29 points to help the Suns get past the Spurs in the playoffs for the first time in five tries.

"That was ugly," Suns forward Channing Frye said walking off the court.

Kind of like Nash's black-and-blue, stitched-up eye.

But it didn't bother Nash, who scored 10 of his 20 points in the fourth quarter to help smother a rally by the Spurs. Nash was accidentally struck by one of Tim Duncan's elbows in the third quarter and briefly went to the locker room with a cut underneath his eyebrow.

He came back with an ice pack on his eye when he finally returned to the court. Even then, it wasn't back into the game right away—first he lay on the court with the ice still on his head.

"He looked like Ray 'Boom Boom' Mancini," Suns forward Grant Hill said. "It forced him to focus 'cuz he was shooting out of one eye."

It was reminiscent of the 2007 West semifinals, when Nash had his nose sliced open when he and Tony Parker collided head-to-head in Game 1. The gash in Nash's nose bled profusely, and the Suns went on to lose the series.

Not this time.

The Suns are keeping one of the more remarkable stories of the playoffs going. Three months after Phoenix was on the brink of trading Stoudemire and calling it a season, the Suns are returning to the West finals for the first time since 2006.

General manager Steve Kerr has said it would've taken an offer "really good for us to break

up the team," and good thing it never came along.

Phoenix sealed its third trip to the West finals since 2005, and gets another crack at returning to the NBA finals for the first time since 1993.

The Suns will either play the Los Angeles Lakers or the Utah Jazz in the West finals. The Lakers lead that series 3-0, and no team in NBA playoff history has ever come back from that deficit to win.

Add these Spurs to that list.

Parker scored 22 points to lead the Spurs, who were swept out of the playoffs for the first time since 2001. George Hill had 17 points, and was fouled while hitting a 3-pointer with 26.5 seconds left that gave the Spurs a flicker of hope.

The Spurs trailed 103-101 after Hill sank the free throw to complete the four-point play. But Manu Ginobili missed a 3-pointer the next time down, and San Antonio's season was over seconds later.

It was an abrupt ending for the Spurs, who'll have a summer to chew on some uncomfortable questions facing the winningest franchise of the last 13 years.

Any season that doesn't end with a ring is a failure for the four-time champions. The three years since their last title is an eternity in San Antonio and, as has been the case since the 2007 finals, time isn't on the side of their aging core.

Ginobili, who'll be 33 next season, signed a three-year extension in March. Duncan will be 35 when his contract is up in 2012. But could the Spurs part with Parker, who enters the summer with an expiring deal worth \$13.5 million and a cheaper replacement behind him in Hill?

Back at the All-Star break, it was the Suns who were thinking about the future when a trade of Stoudemire seemed imminent. The Suns instead kept the team together, and Stoudemire got to enjoy beating the Spurs in the playoffs for the first time since 2000.

The Suns had lost to the Spurs four consecutive times in the



Phoenix Suns' Steve Nash, right, drives the ball as San Antonio Spurs' George Hill defends during the first quarter of Game 4 of a Western Conference semifinals NBA basketball series, Sunday, May 9, 2010 in San Antonio.

playoffs since 2003.

Jared Dudley had 16 points and Jason Richardson had 11 for the Suns. Duncan had 17 points, and Ginobili added 15 for the Spurs.

## Celtics 97, Cavaliers 87

At Boston, those "MVP! MVP!" chants are usually reserved for LeBron James or one of Boston's Big Three.

Rajon Rondo earned every one of them Sunday.

The Boston point guard had 29 points, 18 rebounds and 13

assists, and the Celtics beat the Cleveland Cavaliers to even the Eastern Conference semifinal series at two games apiece.

Still sometimes overlooked among the Celtics' other All-Stars, Rondo is the reason his team is two wins away from knocking off the East's No. 1 seed.

"I think it starts with Rondo. He's kind of the engine that really gets them going," James said. "He does everything for them. His performance was unbelievable."

"Rondo was definitely the difference maker."

Rondo had a playoff career

high in rebounds and matched his best scoring night in his fourth postseason triple-double. He played 47 minutes with some of his bigger-name teammates in foul trouble, and fans serenaded him with the chants as he knocked down a pair of free throws with 17 seconds left.

"He was absolutely sensational tonight," Boston coach Doc Rivers said.

Rondo became the third player in playoff history to have at least 29 points, 18 rebounds and 13 assists. Oscar Robertson had 32 points, 19 rebounds and 13 assists in 1963, and Wilt Chamberlain had 29 points, 36 rebounds and 13 assists in 1967.

Ray Allen and Kevin Garnett scored 18 apiece for the Celtics, who rebounded from the worst home playoff loss in franchise history and ensured they'll get at least one more game at home. Game 5 is Tuesday night in Cleveland before the series returns to Boston on Thursday night.

James scored 22 points—only one more than he had in the first quarter of Game 3—and seemed frustrated during a seven-turnover performance. Shaquille O'Neal added 17 points, his high for this postseason, but was on the bench when the Celtics blew by the Cavaliers in the fourth quarter.

"Boston was more aggressive and we have to try and do it for 48 minutes," Cavs coach Mike Brown said. "The most aggressive team is going to win."

Tony Allen scored a playoff career-high 15 points in 26 spirited minutes off the bench for the Celtics, helping spell the foul-plagued Paul Pierce and Ray Allen.

Pierce continued to struggle, managing only nine points in 31 minutes, but Rondo made sure he wasn't missed.

The Celtics ran off the first 10 points of the fourth, mostly in transition, turning a two-point edge into an 84-72 lead. Rondo's basket started the spurt, he twice fed Glen Davis for easy baskets, and Tony Allen finished it off with another bucket in transition. The Cavaliers didn't score

in the period until Mo Williams' jumper with 7:15 remaining.

"I just wanted to continue to attack," Rondo said. "That's how we got the lead at first."

But Cleveland used its own 10-0 run to climb to 86-84 after James converted a three-point play and set up Anderson Varejao for one. Tony Allen answered with a basket, and after a free throw by Varejao, Rondo threw a pretty bounce pass to Pierce for a dunk, then added a follow shot to make it 92-85 with 1:34 to play.

Rivers said the problem with Boston's offense in Game 3 was really its defense, because the Celtics never got enough stops to get their running game going. Rondo sped by the Cavs in this one, helping Boston—the team with older legs—to a 23-7 advantage in fast-break points.

"Multiple stops means Rondo in the open court," Rivers said.

James and the Cavs put their 124-95 victory in Game 3 away early and looked ready to deliver another quick knockout punch. Cleveland scored the first seven points, and things looked even better for the Cavaliers when Pierce and Kendrick Perkins both went to the bench early in the first quarter with two fouls. But the Celtics started getting stops, enabling Rondo to push the ball in transition, and Boston surged to a 31-22 lead.

A Cleveland flurry with James on the bench cut Boston's lead to three, but the Celtics soon pushed it back into double digits and led 54-45 at halftime.

James appeared to be checking out his sore right elbow after attempting to draw a charge on Rondo in the first half and rarely seemed in the attack mode that carried him to 38 points in Game 3.

Cleveland chipped away in the third, powered by some strong inside work by O'Neal, and eventually took a one-point lead on Delonte West's three free throws with 1:41 remaining. Rondo found Tony Allen for baskets twice in the final 1:07 of the period, giving the Celtics a 74-72 edge heading to the fourth.

**PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. (AP)**—Tim Clark couldn't afford to look at the leaderboard, much less consider what it would mean to end 204 tournaments of frustration and finally win on the PGA Tour.

He was simply trying to survive Sunday at The Players Championship in the most demanding conditions.

Clark played the final 26 holes without a bogey. He set a Stadium Course record with the largest 36-hole comeback. And with an 8-foot par putt on the final hole for a 5-under 67, he no longer had the distinction as the richest player without a PGA Tour victory.

"A part of me is a bit disap-

## Clark wins The Players Championship



pointed because now no one is going to talk about me anymore," Clark said. "At least you had something to write about before. Now I'm just another guy with a win."

Not quite.

Regarded among the best without a PGA Tour title, Clark shed that label by beating the best field in golf.

He made four birdies around the turn to surge past Lee Westwood and Robert Allenby, steadied himself on the scary

island-green 17th for a par then finished off his amazing weekend with a demonstrative fist pump when his par putt fell.

"I did all I could there," said Clark, a 34-year-old South African. "That's as good as I could have played."

He needed every shot on a course with greens that were crisp, firm and pale yellow. The average score was nearly three shots higher than it was for the previous three rounds.

Allenby had the best chance to catch him, but ended up a stroke back. He narrowly missed an 18-foot eagle putt on

the 16th hole to tie for the lead. His next chance came on the 17th until a 12-foot birdie putt peaked into the cup and tilted back away. Allenby couldn't make birdie on the tough 18th, and had to settle for a 70.

"For it to go up to the hole and take a little look over the top and then come back, that was a bit rude," Allenby said. "But obviously, the golfing gods were with Tim today, and I can accept that. I did everything that I could possibly do to try and win the tournament."

Tiger Woods managed to create a buzz without even be-

ing there most of the day. He withdrew on the seventh hole because of a neck injury that he fears might be from a bulging disk. Woods said his neck has been bothering him since before the Masters.

"I've been playing through it," Woods said. "I can't play through it anymore."

Phil Mickelson could have moved to No. 1 in the world with a victory, but the Masters champion never gave himself a good chance. He made bogey on three of his opening six holes, closed with a 74 and tied for 17th.

Clark won for the fourth time worldwide, yet this was his finest performance. The Players Championship not only is the richest tournament in golf with a \$9.5 million purse, it features the strongest and deepest field all year.

Clark won with a 66-67 weekend in which he made only one bogey—the 10th hole on Saturday. It was the best weekend on the treacherous Stadium Course since Fred Couples shot 132 to win in 1996. The 36-hole comeback topped the record of six that Woods set when he won in 2001.

Clark finished at 16-under 272 and earned \$1.71 million.



# Oakland's Braden is perfect against Rays



**OAKLAND, California** (AP)—Dallas

Braden pitched the 19th perfect game in major league history, a dazzling performance for the Athletics in a 4-0 victory over the Tampa Bay Rays on Sunday.

When Gabe Kapler grounded out to shortstop for the final out, Braden had completed the majors' first perfect game since Mark Buehrle did it for the White Sox against the Rays on July 23, and the second no-hitter this season after Colorado's Ubaldo Jimenez pulled it off in Atlanta on April 17.

Braden pitched the A's first perfect game since Hall of Famer Jim "Catfish" Hunter on May 8, 1968, against the Minnesota Twins.

Braden (4-2) threw two-strike changeups and got quick outs against a Rays team that lost on the road for just the third time this year. He struck out six in the 109-pitch performance, throwing 77 strikes in his 53rd career start.

## Red Sox 9, Yankees 3

At Boston, Jon Lester pitched seven strong innings and Jeremy Hermida homered and drove in three runs to help the Red Sox end the Yankees six-game winning streak.

Lester (3-2) entered the game having allowed just one earned run over his previous 20 2-3 innings and won his third consecutive start. A.J. Burnett (4-1) worked 4 1-3 innings and gave up nine runs.

Alex Rodriguez equaled Hall of Famer Frank Robinson for seventh place with 586 career homers when he hit a solo shot off Lester in the fourth.

## Indians 7, Tigers 4

At Cleveland, Andy Marte drove in three runs, Mark Grudzielanek had three hits and two RBIs and the Indians ended a 10-game losing streak to Detroit.

Magglio Ordonez had two hits and two RBIs for Detroit, which couldn't overcome another rough outing by Max Scherzer. Austin Jackson had two hits and scored twice.

Grudzielanek hit a tiebreaking RBI single off Max Scherzer (1-3) in the fifth and singled in another run in the seventh to make it 6-4. Marte added a sacrifice fly for the final run.

Chris Perez, the Indians' fifth pitcher, worked the ninth for his fifth save.

Mitch Talbot (4-2) allowed four runs over five innings for his fourth win in five starts.

## Blue Jays 9, White Sox 7

At Chicago, Fred Lewis hit a three-run homer off Bobby Jenks as the Blue Jays rallied to win, getting homers from Vernon Wells and Adam Lind along the way.

Jenks (1-1) failed to retire any of the four batters he faced. Travis Snider doubled and John Buck singled before Lewis drove a 3-1 pitch into the right-

field seats to give the Blue Jays an 8-7 lead. It was Lewis' second homer of the season.

Jason Frasor (2-1) allowed Carlos Quentin's RBI double in the eighth but got the win when Toronto rallied. Kevin Gregg pitched a scoreless ninth for his ninth save in 10 chances.

## Twins 6, Orioles 0

At Minneapolis, Nick Blackburn threw seven strong innings, Denard Span had his third three-hit game of the month and the Twins earned a split of the four-game series.

Brendan Harris and Alexi Casilla twice started three-run innings for Minnesota.

Brian Matusz (2-3) allowed six earned runs on nine hits in 3 2-3 innings for Baltimore. He has lost three straight.

Blackburn (3-1), who pitched a complete game Tuesday, allowed just four hits.

## Rangers 6, Royals 4

At Arlington, David Murphy had three hits and drove in two runs as the Rangers completed a four-game sweep.

Doug Mathis (1-0) pitched two scoreless innings for the victory. Neftali Feliz got three outs for his third save in the series and ninth overall.

## Mariners 8, Angels 1

At Seattle, Josh Wilson and Michael Saunders hit back-to-back home runs in Seattle's four-run fourth inning on the same day hitting coach Alan Cockrell was fired.

Mariners starter Jason Vargas (3-2) continued with his strong performances of late, pitching 7 1-3 innings, scattering four hits and one unearned run.

Wilson and Saunders both came through with two outs, the first multi-homer game this season for Seattle. Wilson hit a three-run shot just inside the left-field foul pole off Ervin Santana (1-3), while Saunders clubbed his first major league homer to right-center.

## Phillies 5, Braves 3

At Philadelphia, Placido Polanco, Jayson Werth and Shane Victorino homered and Cole Hamels survived a shaky start as the Philadelphia Phillies' bullpen hung on to beat the Atlanta Braves.

Hamels (3-2) allowed three runs and eight hits in five innings. He walked four and struck out five.

Chad Durbin relieved Hamels and pitched two innings, striking out four of the six batters he faced. Jose Contreras got three outs and Brad Lidge threw a perfect ninth for the save.

Troy Glaus had two hits and two RBIs for the Braves. Kershaw Kawakami (0-6) surrendered five runs and seven hits in 6 2-3 innings.

## Giants 6, Mets 5

At New York, Aaron Rowand hit a two-run homer in the eighth in-



Oakland Athletics starting pitcher Dallas Braden celebrates after throwing a perfect game against the Tampa Bay Rays during a baseball game in Oakland, Calif. Sunday, May 9, 2010.

ning after the Giants blew a two-run lead for Tim Lincecum as San Francisco ended the Mets' nine-game home winning streak.

New York—which won the first two games of the series with game-ending homers—lost for the first time at home since April 21.

Lincecum left after six innings with a 4-2 lead but the Giants fell apart in the seventh. Jason Bay's wind-aided two-run single off Dan Runzler tied it and David Wright gave New York its first lead with a sacrifice fly.

Rowand homered to right-center after Jenry Mejia (0-2) issued the Mets' 10th of 11 walks to retake the lead, and Brian Wilson prevented the Mets from making it three last at-bat wins in a row. He got all five of his outs by strikeout for his seventh save.

Sergio Romo (1-3) got two outs for the win.

## Dodgers 2, Rockies 0

At Los Angeles, Clayton Kershaw struck out nine, walked

three and fanned five-time All-Star Todd Helton his first three times up to guide the Dodgers to victory.

Russell Martin homered with two out in the eighth against Matt Daley and Jonathan Broxton allowed two hits in the ninth before picking up his third save in five attempts.

Ubaldo Jimenez (6-1) gave up one run and two hits in seven innings for Colorado.

## Reds 5, Cubs 3

At Cincinnati, Joey Votto hit a three-run homer in the seventh inning to help Mike Leake and the Reds get the win.

The two-out drive was Votto's seventh of the season and handed the decision to Leake (3-0), who didn't allow a hit until the sixth and finished with seven solid innings.

Francisco Cordero pitched the ninth for his 10th save in 12 opportunities as the Reds capped a 4-2 homestand with their third win in four games.

Tyler Colvin hit a two-run homer in the seventh to give Chicago a 3-2 lead, but the Cubs still stumbled to their fourth loss in five games. Dempster (2-3) gave up five runs and six hits in seven innings.

## Nationals 3, Marlins 2

At Washington, Josh Willingham homered in the eighth inning and reliever Tyler Clippard earned his sixth win of the season.

Willingham hit a 1-1 changeup from Clay Hensley (1-1) into the left-field bullpen for his sixth homer, after Florida's Jorge Cantu had leveled it in the top half with a bases-loaded sacrifice fly.

Clippard (6-0) has two more relief victories than any Washington starter. He entered in the eighth inning and allowed only Cantu's fly ball while escaping a bases-loaded, no-out jam. Matt Capps got the final three outs for his major league-leading 13th save.

Hanley Ramirez homered

for the Marlins, who have lost five of six.

## Cardinals 11, Pirates 4

At Pittsburgh, Yadier Molina drove in three runs and St. Louis twice batted around during big innings.

Adam Wainwright (5-1) gave up two runs and five hits over six innings. The Cardinals took advantage of three walks by Paul Maholm (2-3) while sending 10 batters to the plate during a four-run third inning. They put it away by sending 11 to the plate during a five-run sixth.

## Brewers 6, Diamondbacks 1

At Phoenix, Chris Narveson gave up three hits pitching into the sixth inning and drove in a run, helping Milwaukee complete a three-game sweep.

The Brewers, who routed Arizona 17-3 on Saturday night, got homers from Prince Fielder, Casey McGehee and Gregg Zaun to win for the fifth time in six games. Narveson (3-0), a left-hander making his third start since replacing Jeff Suppan in the rotation, allowed one run, struck out eight and walked two in 5 2-3 innings.

## Astros 4, Padres 3, 11 innings

At Houston, Hunter Pence drove in Lance Berkman with a double in the 11th inning as Houston ended a three-game losing streak.

Pence and Carlos Lee hit back-to-back homers off Edward Mujica in the sixth and Pedro Feliz drove in the tying run with a sacrifice fly off closer Heath Bell in the ninth.

Ryan Webb (0-1) relieved in the 10th, and Jeff Keppinger led off the 11th by beating out a bouncer that third baseman Chase Headley couldn't handle. Berkman singled to left, but Keppinger was thrown out at third on Jason Michaels' bunt. Pence then drove a 1-0 pitch to left-center to give Houston its second win in 13 games.

Brandon Lyon (2-1) pitched a perfect 11th for the victory.

## Saints coach Payton deflects lawsuit questions



**METAIRIE, La.** (AP)—Sean Payton calmly took questions Saturday about a lawsuit against the New Orleans Saints, saying he "appreciated" the interest in a case that alleges an attempt to cover up prescription drug thefts at club headquarters.

The Super Bowl champion coach stopped short of responding directly to the allegations, saying now was not the right time to tell his side because civil litigation is pending.

"Certainly, we understand the questions surrounding it, but I'm really not at liberty to"

answer them, Payton said. "As time goes forward, we'll know more and more. ... There just needs to be the correct steps. When you have a civil suit, those probably become more complicated. ... That's the thing that's challenging."

Payton and the Saints are trying to go about the business of football while the lawsuit filed by former security director Geoffrey Santini looms over an offseason that until recently was all about celebrating the franchise's first Super Bowl triumph and the quest to repeat.

During the past week, the Saints reached a new seven-

year deal with All-Pro guard Jahri Evans and a one-year deal with All-Pro safety Darren Sharper. This weekend, the Saints are holding rookie camp for their six draft picks, 14 undrafted free agents and a few dozen players invited for a tryout.

On Saturday, the Saints made Payton available to reporters with no restrictions on what could be asked.

The lawsuit, filed April 30, alleges one "senior staff member" was caught on video stealing the prescription pain killer Vicodin, while another was allowed to take a seemingly excessive amount of Vicodin

from team supplies.

People familiar with the lawsuit—who have spoken to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because of the sensitive nature of the allegations—say the staff member allegedly stealing the pills was linebackers coach Joe Vitt, and that Payton was the other.

Santini's lawsuit does not implicate Payton in anything illegal.

It contends general manager Mickey Loomis asked Santini to find out who was stealing Vicodin, then tried to keep the matter quiet after Santini, a retired FBI agent, brought back the results of his investigation.



PERFECT

From Page 28

inning where Ol’Aces extended their lead by three.

Virlanson Secharmidal and Oscar Stefano started the fifth and reached off a walk and an error and Peyton Lizama connected with a three-run homer.

The Lions failed to answer again in the bottom half and Ol’Aces added one more run to their lead in the top of the sixth as Stafano reached with a hit and scored off an error late in the game.

In the bottom of the last inning, the Lions finally moved a runner over to third, but could not put together a last-inning rally. In the game, the Lions only managed six base runners, but could not bring any to the plate.

Falcons 13, Dragons 3

The visiting Dragons scored two runs right out the gate, but the Falcons answered back with five runs of their own in the bottom half of the first.

This game began with a scary moment as Dragons leadoff batter, Chico Bondoc, was hit in the face on the first pitch of the game.

With Devyn Flores in to pinch run for Bondoc, Kevin DeLeon Guererro came up and reached off an error. Both Dragons would score off errors to give them a brief, 2-0 lead.

In the bottom half, the Falcons pushed back as Matt Hamilton and Barry Sunumai led off and reached with a walk and an error.

Mitti Camacho then reached with an error that scored Hamilton and Sunumai scored off a separate error before A.J. Evangelista singled in Camacho.

Evangelista stole second, moved to third off a single by Logan Martin, and then stole home.

Derek Naog went on to single in Martin before the Dragons could escape the first.

Perhaps the injury at the beginning of the game affected the Dragons’ batters because they went 1-2-3 to start the second and third innings.

On the other hand, the Falcons lit up the scoreboard early and often.

They added five more runs in the second, which included a two-run homer by Naog, scored another two runs in the third, and one more for good measure in the fourth before putting an early ending on this contest.

The Dragons brought in a runner late in the fourth, but could not overcome the big deficit from the first two innings and came up short this week against the red-hot Falcons, 13-3.

Red Sox 15, Strikers 5

VIEL’S

From Page 28

Spark, QQ Rent, Grillin’, and Yuman Pacific Gold.

In the first playoff game, Lyn’s BBQ was in control of the match from start to finish, holding off Diamond’s fourth-quarter rally to nail a seven-point win.

Lyn’s BBQ led by as much as 15 at the end of the third period, 61-47, before Diamond hit several triples in the fourth to prevent Lyn’s BBQ from posting a blowout win.

Lyn’s BBQ’s balance offense was too much for Diamond, who leaned heavily on Brandon Aurelio. Aurelio scored 24 points, while John Jugos chipped in 18. The rest of Diamond players hit baskets in long gaps.

In contrast, Lyn’s BBQ had four players scoring at least four field goals apiece and three finished in double figures. Edwin Santos tallied 14 and Rommel Quintip and Dan Mateo chipped in 13 and 11, respectively.

The Red Sox’s offense overpowered the Strikers, besting the Strikers output in every inning before the Sox put them away early in four.

After the Strikers started out with a two-run lead, the Sox answered back with four of their own.

Early on, the Strikers did not want to go away and briefly tied it back up in the top of the second, but then the Sox came back again with six more runs in their bottom half.

The Red Sox eventually wore the Strikers down and allowed only one more run in the third before the Sox added three runs in the bottom of the inning. In the bottom of the fourth, the Sox hammered the last two nails in the coffin that led to the mercy rule decision.

Notables for the Red Sox included Jonathon Camacho who batted 3-for-4 with a triple, two RBIs, and two runs. Craig Aguon also shone for the Sox after going 2-for-3 with five stolen bases and three runs.

Hustlers 16, IT&E 0

IT&E had trouble swinging the bats against Hustlers starting pitcher Deon Santos in this matchup as eight of the 12 outs in this four-inning ballgame resulted in strikeouts. With eight strikeouts, Santos went the distance in his four-inning one-hitter.

The visiting Hustlers made light work of the last place IT&E squad. After claiming a 2-0 lead in the first, the Hustlers then jumped way out in front to an 11-0 margin after the second inning.

The Huslters added two more runs in the third and then brought home three more in the fourth before Santos took the mound to seal the deal.

Survivors 3, Lions 2

The Survivors gave the Lions its second loss in the weekend when it narrowly beat them, 3-2.

The game was scoreless for the first three innings until the Survivors struck first in the top of the fourth.

Jerry Kintol led off with a single and scored off a passed ball. Caleb Katao reached off an error and was driven in by James Kintaro who also scored off a passed ball.

The Lions fought back to make it a one-run game in the bottom half.

Greg Sablan drew a walk with one out and G-Boy Taitingfong singled him home before scoring off an error.

The score would remain, 3-2 Survivors, as the Lions, who only managed two runners in the last two innings, failed to bring any more to the plate.

Winning pitcher for the Survivors, Takao, allowed two runs, one unearned, in five innings with nine

In the second game, Viel’s was all business in the second half to eke out a six-point win over the Torch Bearers.

The Torch Bearers led at the break, 32-27, behind the trio of Dennis Vinas, Rocyl Ritual, and James Wabinga, but failed to hang on to the lead in the second half when Ron Gamboa led Viel’s recovery.

Gamboa drilled eight points in the third period, while Jomary Tumaquip added five, as Viel’s grabbed the driver’s seat, 46-41, entering the payoff canto.

Danrey Fernandez, who was held to a field goal in the first three quarters, opened the fourth with five straight points, giving Viel enough cushion. A pair of free throws from Joy Dayrit and a split from Rommel Usi foiled Torch Bearers’ comeback bid in the homestretch.

Torch Bearers failed to reclaim the lead in the fourth when it lost Ritual to five fouls and Wabinga and Vinas struggled on offense. Wabinga was scoreless in the final period, while Vinas was also without a field goal in the first five min-

strikeouts.

Falcons 6, Red Sox 3

After a scoreless first, the visiting Red Sox attacked first in the top of the second.

Cory Camacho led off with a double and Tindin Guerrero drew a walk.

Ryan Aguon singled in Camacho and Guerrero scored off an error to give the Sox a brief 2-0 lead.

However, the Falcons tied it up in the top of the third. Matt Hamilton and Barry Sunumai reached off a walk and a single and Angel Palacios cleared the bases with a two RBI single.

The game remained tied at 2-2 until the top of the fifth inning when the Red Sox reclaimed the lead.

Jequinn Guerrero singled and scored off an error for the go-ahead run.

Starting the bottom half at the top of their order, the Falcons pulled out a most timely four-run rally before closing the last three outs of the game.

Two lead off walks came in to home plate off errors, and Evangelista later delivered the other two with a clutch two RBI single.

Braves 8, Dragons 5

Devyn Flores and Jerald Cabrera both reached and scored off errors in the top of the first for the visiting Dragons.

The Braves answered back in the bottom half as Bradley Lieto busted a one-out triple and came home off a sacrifice fly by David Malwuebog. Thanks to a couple of errors, Franklin Lizama later reached first and ended up stealing home.

During the second, the Dragons produced two more runs before the Braves claimed the lead in the bottom half.

Down 4-2 in the bottom of the second, Bradley Castro and Ian Norita led off and reached off a walk and a base hit that set up a big two RBI double by Jay Kalen. J.J. Lifoifoï later singled Kalen home for the go-ahead run.

Dragons starting batter Alden Ngeskebei scored off a couple of passed balls to tie the game after drilling a lead off double to start the third.

This showdown remained tied at 5-5 until the bottom of the fifth inning when the Braves finally broke the ice.

Malwuebog and Lizama led off and reached off a double and a single and both came to the plate off passed balls. Frankie Lifoifoï also came through with a double and scored off an error before Lizama struck out the side in the sixth for the win.

Winning pitcher for the Braves Franklin Lizama allowed five runs with three unearned in a complete six-inning game with nine strikeouts, four hits, and two base on balls.

utes of the fourth before hitting two in the closing minutes.

Dayrit top-scored for Viel with 14 points, while Vinas had 25 in a losing effort for the Torch Bearers.

First Game

**Lyn’s BBQ 75** – Santos 14, Quintip 13, Mateo 11, Naraja 9, David 8, De Vero 6, Manalo 6, Ganaden 2, Lazona 2, Llagas 2.

**Diamond 68** – Aurelio 24, Jugos 18, Sedillo 9, Palacios 8, Cabrera 4, Garcia 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 20-13, 39-29, 62-47, 75-68.

Second Game

**Viel’s 69** – Dayrit 21, Gamboa 18, Tumaquip 10, Hernandez 7, R. Usi 5, De Dios 4, M. Usi 2, Abuan 2.

**Torch Bearers 63** – Vinas 25, Wabinga 11, Ritual 10, Arreza 7, Abedes 5, Engelbert 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 15-17, 27-32, 46-41, 69-63.

Tribune Sports Scores			
MLB STANDINGS			
AMERICAN LEAGUE			
East Division			
	W	L	Pct GB
Tampa Bay	22	9	.710 —
New York	21	9	.700 1/2
Toronto	19	14	.576 4
Boston	16	16	.500 6 1/2
Baltimore	9	23	.281 13 1/2
Central Division			
Minnesota	21	11	.656 —
Detroit	17	14	.548 3 1/2
Chicago	13	19	.406 8
Cleveland	11	18	.379 8 1/2
Kansas City	11	21	.344 10
West Division			
Texas	18	14	.563 —
Oakland	17	15	.531 1
Los Angeles	14	19	.424 4 1/2
Seattle	12	19	.387 5 1/2
NATIONAL LEAGUE			
East Division			
Philadelphia	19	12	.613 —
New York	17	14	.548 2
Washington	17	14	.548 2
Florida	14	17	.452 5
Atlanta	13	18	.419 6
Central Division			
St. Louis	20	12	.625 —
Cincinnati	16	15	.516 3 1/2
Milwaukee	15	16	.484 4 1/2
Pittsburgh	14	17	.452 5 1/2
Chicago	14	18	.438 6
Houston	10	21	.323 9 1/2
West Division			
San Diego	19	12	.613 —
San Francisco	18	12	.600 1/2
Colorado	15	16	.484 4
Los Angeles	14	17	.452 5
Arizona	14	18	.438 5 1/2
Yesterday's Games			
Cincinnati 5, Chicago Cubs 3			
San Francisco 6, N.Y. Mets 5			
Philadelphia 5, Atlanta 3			
Washington 3, Florida 2			
St. Louis 11, Pittsburgh 4			
Houston 4, San Diego 3, 11 innings			
L.A. Dodgers 2, Colorado 0			
Milwaukee 6, Arizona 1			
Cleveland 7, Detroit 4			
Toronto 9, Chicago White Sox 7			
Minnesota 6, Baltimore 0			
Texas 6, Kansas City 4			
Oakland 4, Tampa Bay 0			
Seattle 8, L.A. Angels 1			
Boston 9, N.Y. Yankees 3			
THE PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES			
PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Florida (AP)—Scores after the final round Sunday in the \$9.5 million Players Championship at the 7,215-yard, Par-72 TPC Sawgrass course:			
FINAL ROUND			
Tim Clark (600), \$1,710,000	68-71-66-67—272		
Robert Allenby (330), \$1,026,000	66-70-67-70—273		
Lucas Glover (210), \$646,000	70-65-69-70—274		
Davis Love III (115), \$358,150	69-68-71-68—276		
Heath Slocum (115), \$358,150	67-68-72-71—276		
Bo Van Pelt (115), \$358,150	68-69-69-70—276		
Ben Crane (115), \$358,150	67-69-68-72—276		
Lee Westwood (0), \$358,150	67-65-70-74—276		
Francesco Molinari (0), \$275,500	68-65-71-73—277		
Fredrik Jacobson (77), \$237,500	69-70-69-71—279		
Andres Romero (77), \$237,500	69-70-69-71—279		
Chris Stroud (77), \$237,500	70-69-66-74—279		
J.B. Holmes (63), \$178,125	66-72-72-70—280		
Scott Verplank (63), \$178,125	71-70-69-70—280		
Matt Kuchar (63), \$178,125	68-71-70-71—280		
John Rollins (63), \$178,125	68-69-70-73—280		
Troy Matteson (53), \$133,000	68-71-71-71—281		
Hunter Mahan (53), \$133,000	70-69-70-72—281		
Chris Couch (53), \$133,000	74-68-67-72—281		
Nick Watney (53), \$133,000	69-71-68-73—281		
Phil Mickelson (53), \$133,000	70-71-66-74—281		
Kenny Perry (48), \$95,000	67-71-71-73—282		
Sean O'Hair (48), \$95,000	70-69-70-73—282		
Zach Johnson (48), \$95,000	70-70-67-75—282		
Charley Hoffman (48), \$95,000	68-68-69-77—282		
Jeff Overton (43), \$68,875	70-72-70-71—283		
Bob Estes (43), \$68,875	70-69-72-72—283		
Graeme McDowell (0), \$68,875	72-65-72-74—283		
Adam Scott (43), \$68,875	70-68-71-74—283		
Luke Donald (43), \$68,875	67-69-72-75—283		
Jimmy Walker (43), \$68,875	71-69-68-75—283		
Steve Flesch (39), \$57,475	71-71-71-71—284		
Steve Marino (39), \$57,475	73-67-72-72—284		
Dustin Johnson (35), \$49,020	71-71-70-73—285		
Y.E. Yang (35), \$49,020	70-68-73-74—285		
K.J. Choi (35), \$49,020	69-68-72-76—285		
Greg Chalmers (35), \$49,020	70-69-70-76—285		
Martin Kaymer (0), \$49,020	70-71-68-76—285		
James Nitties (30), \$38,000	70-72-72-72—286		
Jerry Kelly (30), \$38,000	73-66-73-74—286		
Rory Sabbatini (30), \$38,000	72-68-71-74—286		
Ryuji Imada (30), \$38,000	67-66-76-77—286		
Fred Funk (30), \$38,000	72-70-66-78—286		
Bill Haas (30), \$38,000	68-69-70-79—286		
Kris Blanks (26), \$30,400	71-71-75-70—287		
Spencer Levin (26), \$30,400	71-67-72-77—287		
Jim Furyk (22), \$25,118	69-73-73-73—288		
John Merrick (22), \$25,118	70-72-71-75—288		
Alex Prugh (22), \$25,118	69-73-70-76—288		
Sergio Garcia (22), \$25,118	69-70-71-78—288		
Ryan Moore (22), \$25,118	67-70-71-80—288		
James Driscoll (18), \$22,278	71-71-77-70—289		
Justin Leonard (18), \$22,278	72-68-70-79—289		
Oliver Wilson (0), \$22,278	70-70-70-79—289		
Paul Goydos (18), \$22,278	69-68-71-81—289		
Woody Austin (15), \$21,565	69-72-73-76—290		
Boo Weekley (15), \$21,565	69-72-68-81—290		
Stephen Ames (11), \$20,805	70-71-79-71—291		
Alex Cejka (11), \$20,805	69-72-76-74—291		
Kevin Stadler (11), \$20,805	69-70-78-74—291		
Brett Quigley (11), \$20,805	72-69-75-75—291		
J.J. Henry (11), \$20,805	68-71-77-75—291		
George McNeill (11), \$20,805	75-67-72-77—291		
Roland Thatcher (7), \$20,045	71-68-75-78—292		
Jason Bohn (7), \$20,045	67-74-71-80—292		
Alvaro Quiros (0), \$19,665	72-70-75-76—293		
Ben Curtis (5), \$19,665	71-68-75-79—293		
Troy Merritt (3), \$19,380	71-70-76-78—295		
Robert Karlsson (0), \$19,190	71-69-77-79—296		
Tiger Woods	70-71-71-WD		
FedExCup points in parentheses			
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS			
LOCAL SCORES			
BUDWEISER SOFTBALL STANDINGS			
Natibu	17	1	
Island Rebels	16	2	
Man Amigos	16	3	
SaiPal	14	4	
Chura	14	4	
Ur Balls	12	6	
X-Terminators	12	8	
San Roque	11	6	
Hitz	11	7	
Freedom Air Flyers	10	8	
Calikano-Falcons	10	9	
Berdax	8	9	
6-Pack	8	10	
Go For Broke	8	11	
Blazers	6	13	
Red Eye	4	15	
G-Ballers	4	14	
Lancheros	3	13	
Ramblers	3	15	
Team Familia	2	15	
Team Fuego	1	17	
WOMEN'S LEAGUE STANDINGS			
Team 1	2	0	
Team 3	2	0	
Team 2	1	1	
Team 6	1	1	
Lady Eagles	0	2	
Team 5	0	2	

MP UNITED

From Page 28

season. MP United Blue was unbeaten in seven games, winning six matches, and drawing one. It scored a total of 33 goals and gave up only five goals.

Park and Joyner scored the most goals for MP United in the regular season, tallying eight apiece. Angelo Jones and Nuri Gutzwiller-Malakut added four each, Kennedy Izuka and Jake Lee logged three apiece, Andrew Johnson made two, and Enrico del Rosario recorded one. Other members of the team are John Raymond Taisacan, Brian Lee, Bob Kim, John Sta. Ana, Pedro Tenorio, and Jamal Cabrera.

With MP United Blue topping the regular season, the eventual champion was paired with last placer Tan Holdings FC-2 in the first round of the playoffs for Group 1. MP United Blue won, 2-0, and notched the first semis seat despite a 0-0 draw against Matansa Football Club, as it finished Group 4 with the most points with four.

Independents took the other semis

AMP TENNIS

From Page 28

is 300 times more powerful than the AMP lights.

Race added when he made a research about adequate lighting in tennis courts, he found out that the minimum is 400 lux. AMP’s lights only measured 25 lux or just 1/1



# Team 6 gains first win; Team 3 still unbeaten

## Island Rebels ground Freedom Air

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



Island Rebels racked up runs in the last two innings to pull off a come-

from-behind 20-10 win over Freedom Air at the resumption of action in the Chamolinian Softball Association's 2009 Budweiser Slow-pitch Softball League on Friday night at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

The win improved Island Rebels' record to 16-2, keeping the squad in second place in the team standings. Monday and Wednesday's games in the Chamolinian league last week were cancelled due to rain.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Roy Celis went 4-for-4 at bat and recorded five RBIs in Island Rebels' 20-10 win over Freedom Air in the Chamolinian softball league on Friday.

Roy Celis paced the Island Rebels' victory, hitting 4-for-4 at bat, scoring four runs and one homer, and making five RBIs. Toi Celis went only 3-for-5 at the plate, but had two homers and four RBIs.

Island Rebels trailed, 3-5, after three innings before Toi Celis hit a two-run homer and B.J. Babauta blasted a two-run triple to spark a seven-run ral-

ly at the bottom of the fourth and take the lead, 10-8.

Celis had another two-run homer in the fifth and Island Rebels scored seven more runs to steal the win, as Freedom Air managed to log only two runs in the last two innings.

### 6-Pack 16, Red Eye 6

In the first game, Ota Nobuyuki went perfect at bat to lift 6-Pack to a 16-6 triumph against Red Eye.

6-Pack now has an 8-10 record, keeping the team's playoffs chances alive. Only the Top 10 teams in the 21-squad field will advance to the double-elimination playoffs and 6-Pack is currently in 13th place with two more games left.

Besides his perfect performance at bat, Nobuyuki also scored three RBIs and two runs.

Leading by only two, 5-3, after two complete innings, 6-Pack had a seven-run top of the third to pull away and complete a 10-run mercy rule win after holding Red Eye to three runs in the last three innings.

### Calikano 15, Lancheros 6

In the second game, D.J. Omar recorded six RBIs to power Calikano to a 15-6 win over Lancheros.

Omar added two round-trippers and went 3-for-3 at the plate. Nunu Kapileo was only 2-for-4 at bat, but tallied two RBIs, while Mario Salas was 4-for-5 and scored two runs.

Calikano improved to a 10-9 mark for 11th place in the team standings, while Lancheros dropped to a 3-13 record and are already out of the playoffs.

The third match of the night resulted in a forfeit in favor of Go 4 Broke, as SaiPal had a no-show. Go 4 Broke gained its eighth win in 19 games, while SaiPal absorbed its fourth loss against 14 wins.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



Team 6 broke into the win column, while Team 3 remained undefeated after Friday's games in the 2010 Marianas Variety Women's Basketball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Team 6, which lost its debut against Team 1, bounced back quickly with an 81-33 thrashing of the Lady Eagles in the first game. In the second game Team 3, which had a rousing start in the league via a 93-39 rout of the Lady Eagles, scored another big win against Team 2, 63-47. The victory put Team 3 in a share of the lead with Team 2.

Siblings Melody and Emily Matson teamed up in Team 3's second win in a row, firing 19 and 12 markers, respectively. Joining forces with the Matsons were the Engelhardt sisters with Christina nailing 10 points and Andrea chipping in nine.

Connie Camacho top-scored for Team 2 with 18 points, while Jeneque Benavente added 12. Team 2 had only four players making it to the scoreboard against Team 3's six.

Benavente drilled nine of her total points in the first period to put Team 2 in the lead, 12-9. However, that was the last time Team 2 enjoyed the driver's seat, as Team 3 buckled down to work in the second period to steal the lead and the win.

Melody Matson, who had five



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Team 6's Lynique Oveson, seen here beating a Team 1 player for the rebound, scored 17 points in their 81-33 demolition of the Lady Eagles during their game in the women's league on Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

in the first period, added six in the second, while Andrea Engelhardt

finished with five in the first half to give Team 2 a 25-24 lead.

Christina Engelhardt was scoreless in the first half, but logged eight in the third period, while Emily contributed six to up the lead to 11, 47-36, entering the final canto.

In the final canto, Team 3 kept the double-digit lead, as Team 2 had only Camacho and Becky Mettao scoring in the fourth period.

In the first game, Ira Palero sizzled for 35 points to lead Team, 6's first victory.

Team 6 had three other players scoring in double figures for the squad's easy win. Lynique Oveson posted 17, Joana Palero added 16, and Jeralyn Castillo recorded 11.

The Lady Eagles had only three players making it to the scoreboard with Jacque Wonenberg hitting 19 markers, Vanessa Pritchard tallying eight, and Si Ying Chen scoring two.

### First Game

**Team 6 81** – I. Palero 35, J. Palero 16, Oveson 17, Castillo 11, Dong 2.

**Lady Eagles 33** – Wonenberg 19, Pritchard 8, Tell 4, Chen 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 23-5, 39-13, 63-27, 81-33.

### Second Game

**Team 3 63** – M. Matson 19, E. Matson 12, C. Engelhardt 10, A. Engelhardt 9, Tacliad 7, Mobel 7, Ekmar 2.

**Team 2 47** – Camacho 18, Benavente 12, Mizutani 11, Mettao 6.

**Scoring by quarters:** 9-12, 25-24, 47-36, 63-47.



## Silver Streak set on June 19

Participants run from the start line of last year's 16th Annual Tom Picarro Memorial Fun Run.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

By WALTER SUTHERLAND  
walter\_sutherland@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The 17th Annual Tom Picarro Memorial Fun Run—the Silver Streak—will take place on June 19, starting at 6am with check in set from 5am to 5:55am.

The distance of the run is 4.2 miles and will begin at the main entrance of the DFS Galleria on Beach Road. From there, the course runs south to the Japanese Tank at Quartermaster Road and back to the finish line at DFS.

The cost is \$10 and will include refreshments and a

T-shirt for the first 125 finishers. There will also be prizes for first place overall male and female as well as first, second, and third place for age divisions.

Registration forms and payment can be made at the DFS Galleria, Monday through Sunday from 10:30am until 9pm daily. The money raised will go to charitable organizations on Saipan.

Thomas Picarro was the former president of the Saipan division of Duty Free Shoppers until he succumbed

to cancer in 1992.

Picarro was remembered as an avid runner with a head of white/silver hair and this race commemorates his running up and down Beach Road back when he lived in Saipan. Well known as an upstanding member of the community, Picarro was always concerned with the welfare of the people.

If you have any questions, call DFS assistant general sales manager Wolf Mojica at 483-4274 or email wolf@saipan.com.

Last year, veteran runners Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel and Noriko Kim topped the 16th edition of the event.

Kabiriel crossed the finish line with a time of 26:21. He was followed by Filipino runner Ronald Villafria and up-and-comer Mathew Mancao who respectively came in at 27:06 and 27:14.

Jim, for her part, was the first female to cross the finish line with her time of 28:12. Coming in second and third in the women's division were Mieke Carey (30:23) and Monica Yamaguchi (33:26).

## Emon Lodge No. 179 to open cage league next month

A new league will hit the island next month as Emon Lodge No. 179 hosts the Inaugural Emon Lodge No. 179 Basketball League.

The new league is open only to players in the 40-and-above age group and will kick off on June 6 at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Interested teams are allowed to have only 12 players on their roster. Squads must also pay the \$500 entrance fee, inclusive of team uniforms. Representatives/coaches of participating teams are asked to list the complete names of their players and their

common jersey numbers. Teams should also provide organizers with a photocopy of registration and waiver forms filled up by each player.

Game schedule and other details of the league will be discussed once organizers have already received registration forms from interested teams.

Various prizes will be given to team and individual winners of the inaugural caging.

For more information, contact Eli Buenaventura at 483-1671, Bong Malasarte at 287-5525, and Edwin Arenas at 789-2985. (Roselyn B. Monroyo)







## Perfect season for Ol'Aces in Majors

By WALTER SUTHERLAND  
walter\_sutherland@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Ol'Aces took the pennant of the Major Division of the 2010 Saipan Little League after taming the Lions, 5-0, Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

It was the Oleai team's 12th win in 12 games, as Ol'Aces swept all its matches in the 9-and-under age group.

It was the first time since the SaipanCell Patriots accomplished the feat a couple of years ago that a team swept all its regular season assignments.

After a scoreless first inning, Ol'Aces struck first in the top of the second. Michael Muna reached with a single and scored off an error.

The Lions struggled early against Muna who also started on the mound for Ol'Aces. Muna allowed zero runs in the first two innings with five strikeouts and two walks.



Little Red Sox winning pitcher Jonathon Camacho entered the game in the second inning with one out against the Strikers in the Major Division of the 2010 Saipan Little League. Camacho went on to allow one unearned run with four strikeouts, six walks, and no hits in two and 2/3 innings pitched.

WALTER J. SUTHERLAND

Later in the top of the third, Virgil Secharmidal, who also managed to keep the Lions at bay, relieved Muna on the

mound for Ol'Aces.

Secharmidal received valued support from his defense in his three shutout innings with two

strikeouts and two walks.

The score remained at 1-0, Ol'Aces until the top of the fifth

See PERFECT on Page 26

## AMP tennis court lighting problem to be fixed soon

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

CNMI tennis coach Jeff Race will be submitting an assessment report to American Memorial Park ranger Nancy Kelchner to address the lighting problems at the AMP tennis court.

This after several tennis players complained about the poor lighting at the tennis court, which makes night games difficult to play.

Meanwhile, Kelchner, in telephone interview with Saipan Tribune yesterday, said the lights at the AMP tennis courts are only for temporary. She said they are waiting for the white bulbs to be delivered this month.

"Hopefully, we will receive the new ones before the end of the month and our maintenance crew will have them replace the yellow bulbs," Kelchner said.

Race with the help of Dr. Jack Hardy conducted light measurement on the four courts on Friday.

"I used a standard light meter that I typically use to measure light when taking photographs, in either natural light or when a controlled light source is involved. The instrument is a Minolta Auto Meter IV F. It is also possible to set the instrument to record the light in units known as EV, which can be converted to lux (a measurement standard that indicates how strongly an area is lit by the light striking it). I used the meter a few inches above the ground, to have a standard reference level, at designated points that Jeff Race had determined," Hardy said.

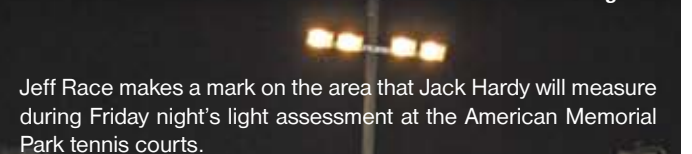
"To summarize, I used a readily available and standard device to measure how much light was striking various points on the AMP courts, in EV units. The EV units can be converted to lux units, using standardized reference tables. The lux unit measurements at the American Memorial Park courts fall very far short of recommended levels," he added.

The CNMI coach hopes data gathered will give AMP an idea on the right type of bulbs to be used at the courts.

There are eight posts in each court at AMP with each post having eight yellow bulbs.

Hardy said these bulbs are just 1/3 brighter than the regular bulbs used in households. The lighting at the Hyatt tennis courts

See AMP TENNIS on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

## MP United Blue wins U14 title

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

MP United Blue capped its dominance in the 2010 NMIFA Youth Football Spring League with a 2-0 win over Independents FC in their boys U14 championship game on Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Jehn Joyner scored on a penalty kick in the first half, while Chris Park found the back of the net in the second half to lift MP United Blue



to the title win. MPU's Team 1 also won the 2009 spring league for U13, beating MP United 3, which incidentally had players now suiting up for MP United Blue.

MP United Blue's victory in the finals affirmed its supremacy in the U14 league, as coach Joo Lee's wards also topped the single-round robin regular

See MP UNITED on Page 26

Two MP United Blue strikers hit the ball during their U14 title game against Independents in the NMIFA youth spring football festival on Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

## Viel's, Lyn's BBQ advance

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Viel's and Lyn's BBQ marched to the next round of the 2010 Navy Hill Friendship Basketball League after pulling off close playoff wins on Sunday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Lyn's BBQ started the first round of the playoffs with a 75-68 victory over Diamond to advance to the next round against Group A first placer Rollers. In the other Group A first-

round pairing, Viel's edged the Torch Bearers, 69-63, to earn the right to challenge second finishers Sonics in the next round.

Winners of the Lyn's BBQ-Rollers and Viel's-Sonics playoff matches will duel for the Group A championship and the victor will fight the Group B titlist for the league championship. Group B has yet to start its playoff round and four teams are also vying for the division title; DL Cooking Gas, NVM,

See VIEL'S on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Torch Bearers' Dennis Vinas, left, and Viel's Danrey Hernandez dive for the loose ball during their playoff game in the Navy Hill caging on Monday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

